

The Zodiac Messages



New Revelation

July - December 1924

Volume II

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GOD IS LOVE.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 27th July, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for Thy great Love and understanding, for all Thy tender care and Thy far-seeing guidance, for Thy all-Wise leading into the path of Light.

Father, we thank Thee as Thy little children and we ask Thee tonight to pour down upon all, Thy ennobling, uplifting Spirit, so that that which is within us may feel Its strength and may be caught up even into the holy realms and there may be healed of the infirmities of the body, released from the chains of the physical mind, and set free once more on that upward path which, winding however it may, leads at last to Thy White Throne, when sorrow is no more...

O God, out of Thy infinite love make this possible. Give unto Thy servants in the Realms of the Spirit power and more power, so that they may be strengthened to carry on Thy work and be enabled to pass on that firmness, that determination, that singleness of purpose which all Thy children, consciously or unconsciously, long to offer to their Father...

Into Thy Hands once more we commend ourselves, knowing that where Thy Cross is nothing which is not of Thee can enter in and that the protection is complete...

...My little children, it is with great joy that I come into your presence tonight in this way - a joy so deep, so wide, so all-enveloping - that I cannot find words with which to express my gratitude to God.

Those of you who are mothers will understand, perhaps, a little better than the others. Picture to yourselves a little one separated from you for what, to you, seems almost a century of time - separated from you

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and perhaps learning to love another in your place. Yes, the mother's heart aches for her little one, her arms are empty and she says to herself with real anxiety: 'I wonder whether she will remember me!' - and no language can portray all that that sentence holds.

Well, dear children, knowing God and the wonderful gifts that He gives again and again, I knew it would be all right - just as the mother knows that the day will come when she will hold love in her arms once more. The day has come for me when once again, by God's grace, I am able to demonstrate in a physical way my presence in your life - in your life, in your thoughts, and in your hearts. What God has once given that He never takes away. You are fast in the fortress of my heart and nothing - time, the world, temptation - nothing shall be strong enough to force open that barricade which I have erected around my little ones.

Yes, my children, I have you fast; and if at times I seem a little distance from you, well perhaps it is done not only to test your own resources but also that you may miss us a little, and when the time of physical separation has elapsed, shall welcome your loving companions and friends who, in a way you little understand, guard and surround your lives every minute of the night and day.

Oh, be not deceived if sadness has crept a little close - be not dismayed. In the future all will be worked into the plan laid down by the Master-Mind, and you shall see then every hour of twilight turned into the Light which is everywhere in the Realms of the Spirit - that Light which has been brought together with so much effort and is there in so much force - brought together by the children of the earth by their little and big tasks, by their great and small troubles. And out of the tears shed during their earth's experience - out of those tears has been created the River of Life which is also that of comfort as well...

I have you fast in my care, and I tell you never again to listen to the suggestion that otherwise is the case; I have you fast in my care and the years shall tell - the years shall tell.

Tonight, my children, I think I will talk awhile with you on that simplest yet most comprehensive theme of all: 'God is Love'.

So hard it seems to gather in; so difficult a lesson to learn; so impossible to remember when the warm, definite, visible sun is shrouded by cloud; so hard to grasp that even the dark days but reveal His

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understanding purpose, and that by the withholding for a space that for which the heart cries out, power and wisdom and progress are being added to each one.

God is Love - and I say it with greater emphasis if the night is dark. When the stars can be seen it is easier to believe; when the moon throws its silvery beams into those veiled corners where doubt tries to hide, then it is almost simple to believe that your Creator is not only Jehovah, but Christ and Father.

But I say that when face to face with the ravages of disease - and with that which is worst of all, the ravages on the happiness of the individual by the evil forces that lurk on either side - I say that when face to face with these seeming disasters, the cry rings out with double emphasis that God is Love - and you shall yet have the strength and the vision to grasp it and to see it too.

The days of preparation seem over-long to the children when it is winter-time. They ask: 'Is summer never coming?' And the answer is: 'By-and-by'. The child is satisfied for the moment but again longing springs up fresh and insistent and she cries again: 'Oh, isn't summer ever coming!' And the mother - the wise mother - then takes her little one to the trees or to the hedges, saying: 'See, here are the first signs of the spring', and the child, looking at the green buds, is comforted - but not for long.

When the wind blows cold and winter seems to have retraced its steps - again she says: 'You told me that summer was coming! What has happened - has all gone wrong?' And the mother then takes her to the first flowers - white and gold and purple - trying to make a show in conditions which seem absolutely against them. But no - those conditions are their right environment. These flowers are sent when bleakness is all around, sent with their message of hope, sent as a reminder of what nature is holding in store for the days to come. And in the joy of their beauty the child is silenced, but when these have passed away she wants more assurance still that summer shall be with her in reality.

So as the days pass her attention is directed to this and to that, and one fine morning she wakes to a transformed scene - the cold wind has gone, the grey clouds have passed far away, the sun, with its warmth and its comfort, is shining upon her and upon those she loves so well - on those, forget it not - on those who also watched and waited with her.

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My children, I want you to take from this simple little illustration enlightenment - that realisation which shall tell you that all is well - well in the way God has purposed from the beginning, and well as only a Father could have conceived in love surpassing all imagination. Yet I would have you remember this: That we over here who are older in experience - who have seen many winters merged into spring - we understand that to the child, so dependent on outward and visible signs, the waiting seems overlong and despair creeps very close.

You see, my children, that even in the waiting is God's love shown in a variety of ways. He does not say to humanity: 'Wait with faith' only, but He gives these small signs of new life - those little insignificant details - which, very often, are passed over by you as 'chance'. No, if you look at your lives with spiritual sight you will see the outward and visible indications that summer is on its way; and I would entreat you when - as is sometimes the case with nature - the summertime is broken by storm and chill, I would entreat you to remember that in the things of the Spirit - those which have been brought to your side by concentration, and by the wish for service in the past - that the summer-time of the Spirit cannot retreat into autumn or winter again.

There you get your contrast. It may be - and I would not pass this over lightly - it may be that that summer-time has its days of chill and lack of brightness, but they shall pass. But what shall prevail, and what does prevail - although you see it not - is the brightness of the Life Eternal.

God is Love and He does not invite His children to attempt to climb the steep hill of experience and then, when they have got so far and are tired and distressed by the roughness of the path - He does not lose interest in them because of their complaining, and turn to another to see if they will do better.

No, my children - I speak to all - God has said: 'Come up hither and I will lead you all the way', and when the boulders seem to obstruct your path, and blows from the enemies of Christ beat you to your knees, He does not relax or retreat one inch from the invitation: 'Come up hither and I will lead you all the way'. It simply means that for a space you refrain from pressing on - I do not say 'rest', because the only real rest there is, is in trying to get nearer to Christ - but you pause awhile and the temptation comes to look back over the path you have followed, and it seems almost darker and harder in retrospect than when you were treading it in faith.

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And here it is that sometimes my children grow very sad - so much strain, so much suffering, and the will to proceed is worn out. I smile - smile, my little ones - with relief and thankfulness, because this is so distorted a version of what really is the case. The shadows have been pressing, and the body is feeling the brunt of that and other conditions as well, and so in the imagination it is quite easy to build up a picture of failure and even of disaster of a most terrible kind. And yet I say I smile because it is all so different really. The majority of pilgrims pass through this phase, but when they are extricated from it they too smile with us.

Once the gaze is firmly fixed on Christ there is no going back - no resting by the wayside - and you shall yet find, dear children, later on, that the sadness and the disappointment and the disillusionment over self took you, unconsciously, a little further up. And so you see, it is quite accurate when I say that, in reality, there is no resting when once the Call has been heard.

God is Love. And nothing, nothing that happened in your life - if only the wish was there to do a little better than you did - nothing in your life shall be found hereafter that did not provide the necessary threads for the working out of the pattern for the soul's redemption. And that is God's purpose with you all, with the world - those who have passed out of physical existence and those who will take it on. This is the purpose of the Father, and you shall find, without qualification of any kind, that God is Love in so comprehensive a way that even those who think they are estranged from Him for ever, shall be gathered in by the golden cords of love, and fettered to the rest of humanity - for the cords, each one, are held by God.

You cannot go astray - not for long. You think sometimes that through evil or through some mishap you are outside the Fold of the Good Shepherd - but no, those outer walls exist in imagination only. Where His children are - out to the farthest corners of the earth, where ignorance and perhaps sin prevail - away out beyond everything, is the protection of God's love. They are not outside His Fold; they are His sheep, and the Good Shepherd seeks for the missing ones - missing perhaps to you, lost indeed to themselves - but the Shepherd knows where to find His sheep and He never rests until He has gathered them in. And what has been and is today, shall be for ever: The Shepherd and His sheep - and the Good Shepherd loses not one.

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Oh, my children, open your hearts and minds, and say to Christ: 'Here I am - I come to you!' That is a gift, a gift in the eyes of God - and the only gift that He ever asks in return for so much lavished on us: 'Here I am, take me and make me as Thou wilt'. The Shepherd has not to seek, for the sheep are drawn back to the Centre by their own desire. There you get the gospel of hope and, I would add, of service too. Each one who comes willingly and gladly to unite with Love, is serving his brethren as a whole, because he is adding one more to the side of good, and that thought - that wish to belong solely and only to God - influences others to do the same.

And so I tell you that even by your smallest thought, your tiniest desire for service, you are helping in the saving of the world. Oh, doesn't it inspire you? Doesn't it make the earth recede to think that you and I, dear children, with all our weaknesses and our frailties, that even we are able to help - to help the Saviour to redeem the world?

Humanity is calling ever for comfort and for succour, and humanity has got to be reckoned with in a way that the complacent altogether overlook. We are all on the same rope, as you have been told before, and we dare not pause or linger, because so much remains to be done. Our strength is their strength, just the same as the strength of those who have fought and struggled and passed out of physical life is your strength. You cannot dissociate yourself either from the highest or from the lowest - the unity between the children of God is inseverable and will be for all Eternity.

But you can do this: You can hinder the purpose; you can divert the strength; you can use up the power which is wanted for a weaker one than yourself - and this is why you suffer such grief when you fail the best that is within you.

Your spirit knows that it is strong enough to stand erect, and yet power is taken which is needed desperately by those who are lower down the hill - that is the position as it stands. Christ calls to those who have climbed this span or that - calls to them to be strong, not only for themselves but for those who, as yet, find it impossible to be anything but weak.

And as you struggle with that physical self - which gives so much trouble, it seems to you - as you struggle with it, so shall you find, even as I say, that the strength and the power is there, and it was only the shadows frightening you by what was not. The power is there, and you

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shall arise in strength and in determination and continue the climb, certain that each step higher up is sending back to those behind the will and the wish to climb as well.

My children, we are so much in sympathy - sometimes you find it a little hard to remember that. But we are so united in purpose, in aim, and in ambition, that it should not be too hard for you to get a little more of my view and to see a little more plainly that bodyguard of love, that strong protection which Christ has provided - it should not be too hard for you to realise that it is there, there, my children, in an unlimited degree.

We are friends - we are more even than that, sacred though friendship may be - we are as one in love, in experience, in sorrow, and shall be one in joy in the days to come. And that at-one-ment is possible only because of the fact that God is Love, and that He has distributed amongst us as much as we can hold - a little of that Divine Love which binds us not only together, but oh so closely to Him, that it would be impossible for an enemy to intervene.

You are held by Christ through storm and tempest - held, protected, guarded, fought for - and in your hearts you should acknowledge Him, not only as King of kings and Lord of lords, but Love - Love Divine, eternal, unlimited and inseparable. That is the position of the children and their Heavenly Father, and nothing can alter it. Let that thought sink into your hearts and minds and bring its own sweet peace and comfort - the comfort of knowing that: 'I am His and He is mine for ever and ever.'

I will leave you now for a little while because love is so insistent that it longs to show itself in an outward and visible way, because those upon earth are apt to be very dependent on the outward and the tangible when it concerns themselves. It is impossible for you, so pressed in by physical conditions, to remember the power of love unless you see it and are told of it. And that is why we long to come to remind you again and again of those who watch and wait with you - watch and wait with you until the morning of Spiritual Life...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I think we can all, with a united heart, thank God for His goodness and His graciousness to us tonight. It has been a wonderful example to me of the working out of the promises given to me when you were entrusted to my care... I thank my Father that He has not

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only fulfilled the promise but has interpreted it in a way that only the Divine Mind could think of...

My children, my closing words are few, they are really a thanksgiving - a thanksgiving in which I want you to try and join with me - for in that thanksgiving you will find your gift returned - some a hundred fold; some sixtyfold and some thirtyfold - according to the value of the gift that you could offer.

I want you to understand that things are relative, in this way. It is all summed up in that oft quoted statement that: 'As you sow so shall you reap' - as you give so shall you also take. But always, with the things of the Spirit, the taking is immeasurably greater; and, to our minds, the giving is so terribly small.

Still, my children, is that not like the Father? Can you imagine Love weighting the scales so that they may be equal - to give you what you, out of your poor resources, can give Him? You see, when looked at in a direct way, you can realise that things never can be equal between the Father and His children and never will be... The Father watches over the growth of the baby-soul. He alters the nature of His vigil as the child grows up, and then when maturity is reached He gives gifts of power, of opportunity, and of right desire. Later, still again He alters that which He offers in so free and so lavish a way - He gives the gifts of the Spirit, that inward peace, that joy beyond all expression - and then the soul comes into its own.

You see, dear children, that physical standards are of no use when you are thinking about God. Many a parent today - some out of necessity, which shall be added on the gain side hereafter because of the pain it caused - but many a parent today has to take as much, or more, than he gave, from the child he reared. And some there are who demand but have given not. These have sorrow to face - and self is not an easy enemy to overcome.

But Christ, your Father and my Father, gives and gives again, and you cause Him pain when you shut yourselves off from His gifts; and that's the difference between man and God. You cannot ask too much, and your Heavenly Father cannot bestow too much. All that is necessary is the attitude with Him which makes a free and open channel through which His love can flow, growing in volume as you prepare yourselves to meet it. And as you grow so is it possible to increase that which is there in such

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abundance. Thus united, undivided by the world, you find your happiness in your Creator and, yes, your Creator finds His happiness in you...

And so I leave it there, hoping, dear children, that wounds are healed and that the strength - which is so closely allied to Love that we cannot tell the difference - that the strength of the Spirit will send you on your way rejoicing, because Christ has called you to follow Him.

And now for the blessing: I bless you with peace, with vision and with that joy of achievement which shall be your own. Send down, O God, Thy courage, Thy strength, Thy hope and the certainty that Thou art in command and all, all is well.



TODAY AND TOMORROW.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 3rd August, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Father, just as we are we come to Thee - as little children resting on Thy compassion and looking to Thee with eyes of trust - certain, so certain that all is well, and that Thy great and overwhelming love is able to gather everything in and to do that which is needful, so that the strength may be forthcoming to carry this evening through to a successful conclusion.

O Christ, help us - help us both in the morning and when the sun goes down. Help us in the hours of night when loneliness makes itself felt and Thou dost seem very far away, and in all those phases which recur in the memory so often and whose echo is as bitter as the phase itself - in those times of need, of spiritual weakness in the sense that touch with Thee seems incomplete - in those times, O Lord, gather us up and bestow upon us Thy kiss of pardon, and grant that the power of the Spirit may carry us through - carry us through and leave behind the light of achievement and of that progress which suffering has purchased as its natural right...

Grant us these blessings, O God, and help us - help us to be free. Sadness has no place where Thou art - joy and peace only can be present - therefore we hold out our hands tonight for joy and peace, banishing the shadows beyond the borders of this room.

It is sufficient to want to be with Thee for Thou to be amongst us; it is only necessary - as Thou hast taught - for the wish for communion to be in the hearts of Thy children for the channel to be open, to be kept clear of the obstacles of the world...

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It is in Thy power, and within Thy love, to give so that the Spirit shall have full play and that Thy work may be carried on; therefore, with joy we meet together - joy and peace - and with joy and peace we shall take up our lives once more, certain that Thou leadest all the way and where Thou art the enemy cannot approach...

Thy blessing, O Christ, O suffering Christ, Thy blessing...

...My children, once more we meet together in this sacred way, and once more I ask you to give me of your aid, to lend yourselves entirely to the Spirit, so that those little gaps which might cause trouble may be filled in expeditiously, and we shall be quite sure of an uninterrupted evening - quite sure that God only waits to do that which we desire.

My children, it must seem to you sometimes that life - physical life - is a very complicated thing. And so it is - so it is, because the children of the earth cannot work on simple, straight lines, and, for the most part, they cannot keep their eyes on Christ and allow everything else to go by.

Life in your world today is a very different thing from what God intended in the days of creation. God did not mean that there should be so much unnecessary suffering - unnecessary, because the same progress and the same development could be brought about in a different way altogether: It could be brought about by the gentle acquiescence to the Divine Will - just that taking up of the burden and handing it over to the Saviour - when joy would be your companion instead of sorrow and all those many stages of grief which some of my children have come to understand far too well.

I wish I could do more, but that does not mean that God will not allow me to do more. Many of you think that - but I would have you recognise the truth over this great matter, now and forever.

God does not stand between anyone and joy and peace and happiness; but the evil has been given such licence by the disregarding of His laws during the many centuries of time which have elapsed, that the plans of Love are seriously maltreated before His will is done.

I know, to the majority, it sounds curious that evil should have this power - and yet just think for one minute. Take the average person - the ordinary, so-called 'good' person - and you will find that even they

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contribute something to the side of weakness, something which has to be fought against and overcome, not only by themselves but by others.

It is, dear children, by thought that so much damage is done. It is, as it were, as if a tiny stone obstructed the path of the pilgrims on their way to the Better Land. And each one - or nearly each one - in passing, leaves a thought of regret, of rebellion, or perhaps of sadness. And on that site is added many other small stones - some so tiny that you would think they were of no importance at all - but collectively they hang together and, in time to come, instead of a small hillock which can be stepped over without a second's hesitation, lo, there is a column of stone - immovable - which has to be passed one way or another. And the path is narrow - narrow, as you have been told before.

You see, my little ones, how it all happens. You cannot lay the blame on this or that generation, far less on this or that person. Unconsciously, influenced by what they see with their physical eyes, thoughts are put into action, and these thoughts have such power that they become tangible, definite things - which have got to be reckoned with by all who wish to climb.

I just explain this to you because I do want you to try and understand that it is all 'cause and effect' - stretching away back over the centuries - and you, individually, have not only to fight your own thoughts, but in reality are up against the countless thousands which have been left behind by others.

And here you get the dangerous element with those who are what you call 'highly strung' or 'over sensitive'. You get the signal of danger here because, of necessity, no individual can be sensitive to one set of vibrations without responding equally to others of a less favourable kind. It can be done, of course. When they get a little further on, they are able to shut themselves up in the cabin of the spirit - inside which nothing of the material world can penetrate. But it all takes time.

I want you to try and look at things in an unbiased way. You have got to reckon not only with present conditions - with the power of the shadows, which power, of course, is enhanced by your own thoughts - but also you have got to reckon with all that has gone before. And to the uninitiated it sounds so hopeless a task - so stupendous, so utterly beyond human effort - that hope sinks very low indeed.

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Ah, my children, you see we have got away from the simple into the complicated, and the complicated is not only difficult to understand but very hard to grapple with, in a physical sense, as well. I led you on in imagination because I wanted to show you how easy it is to get off the straight and sunlit path, into the mazes of the wood which lie on either side.

I have told you that many, many times - I have told you that the path to God is like a long ribbon stretching away out into Eternity Itself. And all who are able to keep their feet on that, which at once is so definite and so lovely, they are protected from sorrow in every form there could be - protected not from the experiences of physical life, but from the grief they bring to the understanding mind.

And I warned you - yes, many times I have warned you - of the wood on either side. I said, as I say tonight, that although conditions may entice you into its shade, yet the Voice of the Spirit will call you back again and yet again, because you belong to God and God knows how to look after His own.

The straight and simple path is the only safe one for the pilgrims of the Light. And so tonight, dear children, I think you will be able to agree with me that, after all, the mazes into which the physical mind lead you so often, bring far too much bitterness to justify their exploration.

Remember this: That Christ is on the 'high road', and although His love is able to reach into the densest thicket of physical experience and lift His children out, yet it is only when they are treading the high road that they can see Him. You see the difference? You are never out of sight of your Heavenly Father, but you, being limited by physical restrictions of mind and faculty, you cannot see Christ unless you are on the straight and narrow path which He has laid down for you.

I wish I could comfort you more; I would that I could link your arm in that of joy, and see you happy in mind and in spirit. But, my children, only God can do that. Much as I love you - and I love you in a way you cannot understand even in the dimmest way - much as I love you, my powers are limited, because you have yet to learn, yourselves, what Love is like.

There is no reproach in these words - no hint of reproach - only deep, deep understanding of the trials which beset your path at this stage. And I

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tell you - tell you in definite tones - that although I cannot do what I desire so much, yet Christ can do it now - or at any moment - when you can find within yourselves the faith and the confidence to ask it... I almost said: 'to demand it', because, my little ones, it is your right - it is your right, and Christ is the first to recognise this with joy.

There are several little things about which I wish to speak to you tonight, and the first of these is that big problem of: 'Today and Tomorrow'. I put it in that way because it will be easier for you to grasp.

Today is always with you in an unpleasant sense, and tomorrow - that glorious tomorrow, when gladness will take the place of sorrow - that glorious tomorrow seems for ever beyond your reach. Yet, dear children, if I agreed with this, I should be denying everything that I have told you during the years that we have been together in this personal way. Yes, I know you think you have very good grounds for viewing today with repugnance and tomorrow as a beautiful dream which will only be realised when your physical bodies are laid aside...

My children, it is often so during the earthly pilgrimage. The majority start off with high hopes - they draw out from their hidden resources so much power and effort, that it seems to the looker-on - and sometimes to themselves - that they are going to take the hill at a run.

That stage, dear children, is a very lovely one, both for them and for us. We cherish the remembrance of their enthusiasm, of their selflessness, of their desire to do the best they can. We love the remembrance of this, and during the stage we collect each little golden thread and put it into the safe keeping of our heart, for it is a gift of worth indeed.

But we know that by-and-by the tests will come - we know that the first spurt of energy cannot last if the hill is to be climbed to the top - and so we start preparing them for the inevitable disappointment in themselves that follows.

You see, dear children, there is nothing in the nature of a spiritual tragedy about this - it is just commonsense - so natural, so entirely to be expected.

Take yourselves: You see a beautiful high hill and there is a long way to go before the top is reached. The young ones - spiritually, as well as physically - they say: 'It's no use thinking about it - let's get on!' And up

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they go, taking big strides, entirely disregarding the strain on muscle and sinew. And soon, very soon, they have to pause and rest.

The old campaigner - he who has climbed many hills and has always found it well worth while when he has reached the top - he goes to work in a systematic way. First he sees that he travels light, and then that he has a strong staff in his hand. He is practical, he knows he has a long way to go, but he is going to get there in the end. And the youthful ones, breathless with their exertions, are passed by the more experienced. But in passing them does he criticise or condemn? No, he is full of understanding over their enthusiasm - it takes him back to his own early experience, and he thrills with sympathy over their courage and the wish to do so much in a short space of time.

And then, leaving our hardy traveller, we go back in thought to the younger ones. Mind you, they intend to get there in their own way in the end, and they do - and really there is something to be said for their method of tackling the obstacles in their path. Heedless of tumbles, of physical damage - even of danger - they scramble up, and if they have to rest awhile, well, if they keep their eyes off the valley, there is plenty to be seen on either side. But notwithstanding that, soon, very soon, again they turn their back on it all and grapple with the hill once more...

Very often, dear children, the experienced climber is found resting on the top, drinking in the revelation which he has purchased. And then it is with greater sympathy still that he makes room for the exhausted younger ones, bidding them stay awhile. And in the comparison of experiences - which differed only in the way in which they were taken - they are happy together. And perhaps he gives them a little advice as to the easiest way to tackle the next hill which they are ambitious to scale.

That, dear children, is a simple illustration of your position and mine. I want you to try and look at it in that way, and not to feel that I am criticising your big spurts and little rests and the exhaustion which you feel over the steepness and the difficulty of the climb. I am perhaps a more experienced traveller, that is all. But you know that if I have gone up a hill or two in front of you, yet God has allowed me to retrace my steps - just as you would do to a little child - to give you a helping hand over the rough parts, and to tell you that, after all, it isn't so bad, because I have been all the way and know it for myself.

Today and Tomorrow

Oh, I think that view does place me on a different footing altogether. It is such a natural attitude between us; there is so much understanding, so much sympathy - the sympathy of remembrance between us. And just as you would pity someone in difficulties and wish to give them a helping hand, so do I feel towards you. And I wish you could regard me in this way - and not as one who, standing safe and secure above the boulders, hurls them down so that you may lose the little advantage that you have gained.

It sounds a cruel picture to you, but even so the shadows have represented things on many occasions. They have, in so many words, cried to each one of my children in their hour of need: 'Where is your companion now?' I would answer: 'Your companion is in the only place where a companion could be - by your side!'

There is pain in this for you and pain for me as well - but my pain, dear children, is only because you suffer so in your isolation. The shadows cannot cause me one pang direct; but through the torture of my little ones, indeed they torture me...

There you have in outline: 'Today and Tomorrow'. And although you may think that the beauty of tomorrow is held over until you have reached the summit, yet I would remind you that in the climb to God there is beauty all around, there is a revelation of the Spirit which nothing can surpass, because during the training stages you are allowed to look upon much which is denied to those who are at the top - denied in this sense: The whole vista is laid out before them - so much to look at, so much to make their own - that the exquisite details of this or of that bit of beauty from the Divine Mind, those exquisite details are lost in the whole.

And then, my children, there is another point - and tonight I feel I have got you in such a very real way, which is so dear to my heart - there is another point on which I should like to touch, and that is in regard to the encroachment of pain on the physical body.

It is like the incoming tide - I can think of no better simile than that. The tide of pain comes in sometimes very fast. As you stand and watch the ocean, wave after wave comes creeping up the shore - and even in regard to nature's sea, the thought comes as to the pitilessness of its power and the remorselessness of its approach.

Yes, in some cases pain is like that to the physical mind and physical sight, but what so many forget - and it is hard to remember when the

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waters roll so close - they forget that when the tide is full, then the retreat sets in.

I want you, dear children, to carry this simile a little farther still. Take your own characters as a broad stretch of sand which in time will be covered by the sea. Before the sea approaches, much has been done with the sand; erections of all sorts have been hastily put together, many footsteps have left their mark, and sometimes untidiness is evident as well - not only due to your own thoughtlessness, but very often to the carelessness of others. That is what the sand looks like when the tide is out - rather a disorderly appearance which even you yourselves are glad to think will be obliterated by the cleansing tide which is fast coming in...

And then from that, dear children, I take you on to my reminder that, in due course, the waters recede leaving oh such a clean smooth surface. And beautiful and glittering in the morning sun are many precious stones - precious to you, dear children - because it was only the force of the water that washed them free from the sand and made them apparent to your eyes. Yes, and there are other treasures as well. Nature is very plentiful - and God with the things of the Spirit, is more generous still.

That is the picture which I would leave in your minds tonight: The cleansed shore and the sun shining on that which might seem to you as tears, finally drying it all up and giving you space on which, if you will, you can build again.

My little ones, don't forget - don't forget these simple little illustrations. Turn them over in your minds and see for yourselves if they don't ring true - true to your physical and spiritual experience, and true to the love of God as well...

And now I will go - but must give one last word and that is: As I prayed that joy and peace should be here, I can say now with a full heart, with absolute certainty of mind, that love and peace reign supreme and sorrow is banished beyond these walls.

Happiness, happiness, dear children, fills my heart and mind - and happiness, my little ones, keep in your hearts and minds as well. You are the children of the King, wherefore then are you sorrowful? You are the children of the King, wherefore then are you sad?...

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(Others then spoke...)

MRS ALDER - Extract...

...It is my privilege to be the last one to speak this evening, and I have been told to give you a little message of three words - one of those mottoes that you can tuck away in your mind without squeezing anything else outside... I had a little trouble because, as so often is the case, the shadows wanted to prevent me from going on... The three words are these: 'Trust in God!'

And we want you to make that your motto, because in it everything is included. And I have been instructed in a most marvellous way - through the power of the Spirit - to give you these three words, and they come straight from the Throne of God into your midst: 'Trust in God!'

(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...So, my children, all is well, and tonight I am going to close this sweet converse with just a few words on Peace.

We all love that word so much because it expresses, to us, relief from physical conditions, release from the tyranny of the physical mind, and harmony with the things of the Spirit. Oh, let it sink into your very being tonight; will yourselves to grasp it; ask in faith that you may be strong enough to hold it, and be certain that the Peace of God is not up there - held just beyond your reach - but is here to be grasped, to be made your own possession, because it is God's gift to His beloved.

Say not to yourselves ever again that the way is too hard, too dark, too long. Say to yourselves instead: 'Though the darkness seems to surround me, yet I know I am treading ever further towards the Light - the Light of full revelation, of the realisation of God's love, the recognition of the quest of the spirit, the unfoldment of Divinity within, the recharging with the power and the love and the joy which comes from God, the sanctification and the dedication of life - physical, spiritual and eternal - to the Maker, the Creator, the Giver of all'.

Never, never, despair if your prayers appear to remain unanswered. Remember that this is only because God has chosen the best for you, and the little space - that little trying of patience, the further preparation - is making that not only possible but certain to be worked out in fact.

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Oh, remember, my children, that you are not crying to a Deity above and beyond you all; you are asking as children of their Father, whose very greatness is shown by His capacity to walk with you - by your sides. You are not interceding for the happiness and the liberty of those you love - you are as one, children of the Father, the Great Heart, who is seeking always and for ever to bring you on, to give you of those gifts of the Spirit as soon as you can hold them, and finally to establish you in homes of your own, exceeding anything that you could conjure up. And in that happy time, this little span of earthly experience will seem as a cloud passing over the horizon, leaving only light and sunshine all around.

This is the Great Hereafter, and such is the will of God, that something of this radiance shall be thrown across your physical lives, and you shall indeed say with all your hearts: 'My trust in God has been justified up to the hilt!'

Now I go from you for awhile because the strength of my child is exhausted - go from your presence in a physical sense - yet to be with you in a far more definite way in the Spirit, where the physical is powerless to make any barriers at all.

Turn your hearts - turn your gaze back to Christ, and know that there is security, comfort, joy and protection; and in His sheltering Arms you are safe from all adversity for ever and for ever.

Good night, dear children - 'Good night' in this sense only but 'Good morning' in every other sense there could be - the Good morning which comes as a gift from God Himself.



GROWTH.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 10th August, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Spirit of Light, we draw near to Thee rejoicing that the gloom of the physical mind can be laid aside, that we can enter into Thy Presence - into Thy Presence, when darkness is no more.

O great and loving and understanding Father, grant that the bonds of the physical may slip from us this evening, and that we may indeed enter into the Spirit - the Spirit which is ours by Thy gift and which Thou hast made our right.

O Heavenly Father, give unto Thy little children that insight which makes all things clear, that will pierce the clouds of misunderstanding and enable them to for ever live under the Light of Thy Love.

Christ, Saviour, King, as we speak we know that we are being lifted up in thought, separated from the world of flesh, and linked with those bright ones who are ever able to contact, through Thy Grace, with Thy loved - and loving - children on earth...

There is that space which, it seems to some, cannot be spanned; but we know, O Father, that in Thy Hands everything is possible and that Thou hast thrown across distance and conditions, time and limitations - Thou hast thrown across all these the bridge of Thy Love on which Thy little ones, bound or free, may cross and recross to each other again and again.

Father, we thank Thee - thank Thee humbly and with true gratitude - thank Thee for all Thy understanding of the needs of the physical mind, its loneliness, its isolation, and its longing to

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be in the Centre of Love, which means - as all must find - with Thee, in the Realms of the Spirit.

Thy blessing, O Christ, is descending upon us as we watch and wait. Grant that we may be given the strength to hold that blessing close, so that no evil may intervene and rob us of what is Thy Divine will...

It is accomplished - the sealing of Thy children unto Thee - the Cross not as a symbol of sorrow but that of identity with the Most High...

...My children, it is well this evening that we meet in this way, and I think before our little time together is finished, you will agree with me that it was well that God allowed us to meet and to have this sacred communion tonight. Each one shall be conscious of a blessing - a blessing which, as the days pass on, shall grow in strength and in power - and you shall see for yourselves the Love, the Divine Love, which is even now enveloping and sheltering your lives in a way impossible for you to understand.

(To Dorrie) My child is not to worry over her task; she is to leave it in God's Hands and be certain that the help provided will be sufficient to carry her through - carry her through into happiness - because she writes for God.

And now, most cherished of my heart, I say tonight that beauty and gladness and light and holiness are in this room, and you, by your thoughts - by your efforts to keep the harmony intact - you have brought into your midst that which no human being, while still bound by the physical, could bear to look upon.

Here we are, banded together in aim, in thought, in wish - and what is it all about? It is that inmost craving which comes from the recesses of that bigger, greater, nobler you within; that longing to be used by the Most High - to be a suitable weapon for carrying on His work - and to add your little quota towards the enlightenment of those who still sit in darkness - who, because they love darkness, have no power to raise their eyes to God's countenance, when darkness would be no more.

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Yes, my children - and I think you will agree with me at once - it is a great calling, a grand calling; and you shall find within yourselves the strength and the courage to go on.

Here it is that we touch upon that important question of: 'Growth' once more - growth, dear children, in this sense: That you are daily growing more in the likeness of that bigger, nobler you within - which represents, in miniature, the greatest Example of all.

Yes, it is all a question of growth when the heart is in tune with God - a question of expansion, of development, of unfoldment - and you, whether you realise it or not, are even now putting forth extra petals which shall, in time to come, be shown to have added beauty and holiness to your soul.

I want you, dear children, to come with me in thought just for a little while, and I will attempt to tell you how this and that provides most valuable material for that time when the physical body shall be laid aside and you will stand clothed in robes of Immortality, acknowledged servants and disciples of the One who went before.

Now, my children, you know that growth can be of two kinds - many more in detail - but two kinds which stand out in your minds as typifying growth itself. We will take first of all that which is the least pleasant to think about.

My children have often seen the physical body of this one or that marred by a hidden disease - a poison in the blood - which produces in an outward, and sometimes in a visible way for all to see, that which is abnormal, perhaps grotesque, and always most distressing to gaze upon. Many wince as they pass those so afflicted, and sometimes the thought comes as to the reason for their physical disability - which in some cases but reflects their spiritual disability - and they wonder why it should be allowed to announce itself for all to see.

Well, my children, I take this rather exaggerated example of growth first because of the repulsion which the average, sensitive person experiences when they gaze upon such a distortion of what was meant to be a beautiful covering for the spirit within.

Of course you know that we, looking at you from the spiritual side, are not affected in the same way by physical blemishes. But I would have

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you understand that because they do not affect us in an unpleasant sense, it does not mean that we do not understand the pain of mind - in addition to, very often, the agony of the flesh as well - that we do understand what this means to the one concerned...

And then I pass on from that to the growth that we do see in a very definite way indeed. My little ones, you have been told before that the soul is the outer covering of the Divine, which is all-pure, all-great, all-holy. Sometimes - it is terrible to have to put it into words - but sometimes the soul bears those same disfiguring marks as the physical body to which I have referred.

I think you can follow me when I say that the malformation of the body is a trivial affair compared to the malformation of the soul - and we do see these in a way that you could not understand until you come here. But there is this difference: They do not cause that sense of disgust and shrinking which such offences of nature so often bring to you... One point of view is quite different because we know that there is no growth - there is nothing too loathsome for the Father to cleanse, and, finally, to obliterate.

You see, my little ones, that in talking of growth, it is a one-sided affair to treat that word merely as the evolution of the child-soul to maturity. There is the other side of the shield - that bringing into being of what, to you, represents horror itself - but I would not have you saddened because of this. You know quite well that with the physical body sometimes, by the skill of the physician, it is possible to eradicate the trouble - if not, well you have the certain assurance that when the outer garment of the body is laid aside, the soul, perchance, is glorious indeed.

The same applies exactly - although in a different sense - to those growths which, in some cases, are so firmly embedded in that holy tabernacle (the soul) that to the uninitiated it seems that nothing could make them whole again. Those who have set their wills and their love and their efforts on restoring and bringing back to loveliness that which is of God - these, dear children, are doing a work of such value and treasure to the Master, that no words can express it.

But all are not called to this in a definite sense - that I have told you before - but I would also remind you that by your thoughts and by your prayers for those who have so sorely afflicted themselves - that by the power of these, you can, in a large measure, act even as a physician; and in

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time to come the patient, so far renewed in strength, will rise up and continue the work himself.

Hope - hope everywhere, and the word despair does not exist once spiritual sight is your own.

And now we will get away from the sad side - and it is not only sad to you but is very sad indeed to us - we will get away from that to the growth which, even in its earliest stages, is so exquisite to witness. I want you, my little ones, to take a much broader view of this subject than you do at present. I find that even after my continual reiteration of the truth - I find so often that your troubles and your pains are regarded as a penance imposed upon you by the Creator. You say - or you think: 'Well, I have done that and this is my punishment', the implication being - you cannot fence it - that God, seeing your misdeeds, lays the hand of censure upon you and the punishment as well.

I am going to fight this ever and ever - I am never going to rest until I force it upon your physical minds and understanding that the Father does not act like that. It is growth, it is you, my dear children - the real you - tightening the reins, trying to keep the physical self from roaming too far to the left or to the right.

I would emphasise the remarks of last week - I would insist that you consider it in all its magnitude of possibilities - that 'Examiner' of self. You are not going to escape lightly, either now or then, because the 'you' within, being strong and valiant, has very little sympathy with the weaknesses and the evasions to which the physical mind is so prone...

Now, that sentence gives an impression opposite to the one I wish to convey. It seems that I am attacking the physical you as an enemy, as a truant, as the culprit - and yet I have told you before that when you see things as they are, you will know that the physical body has brought you treasure of such great worth which it would be almost impossible to acquire by other means... I am speaking of those who wish sincerely to find God.

Yes, Christ and 'Examiner' are very different personalities. You are protected by His Love and His understanding and His Fatherhood; but with that great Examiner of self, there is nothing to stand between your judgment - judgment and condemnation as well. You see, dear children, that it is a great responsibility - this duality, this combination of the

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spiritual with the physical - it is a great responsibility in this sense: That you are answerable to yourself for what has taken place.

How often have you it illustrated even now. More and more do my children flinch from their consciousness of having failed the best within; more and more do those stabs of self-reproach make themselves felt when, heedlessly, they have hurt another. This is but a faint representation of what is going on in reality, and that is why, when people come here, those who have eyes to see are anguished for the time being over their shortcomings and over the betrayal of the Light within.

My children, I said they were 'anguished' - and so they are until Christ has healed the wound. And there you get the point to which I have been leading you: That Christ stands aside from the blows - from that anguish of mind and spirit - stands aside in this sense; that He is unconnected with it, except to soothe and heal the torture which the knowledge and the realisation of His love brings to all.

Oh, try, my children, to make this thought the foundation of your daily life and when, as must happen at times, little or big things go wrong, place the source in the right direction and say at once: 'Yes, I know I have done wrong or I have been foolish, but Christ is trying to comfort me all the same'.

You are growing fast in many ways. It is, perhaps, with tears that the growth is being brought on. But those tears, dear children, shall be turned into joy unimaginable, because the period of suffering is so short, so light, in comparison with that which it produces and those good gifts which it gathers unto the soul.

Tonight, in speaking of growth, I have treated the subject from a somewhat different angle; and yet each point of view is in harmony with the other. You are out for big things, and the greater, nobler you within intends to do its part thoroughly, and to see that its physical counterpart shall do the same as well. And that is the whole thing in a nutshell: You are out for big things.

And then comes that wonderful, compensating thought: That because you are out for big things, you attract to yourselves, whether here or during your daily life, you attract to yourselves not only beauty and brightness, but power and support. There are around you those from the bright spheres who have travelled far and know what it is all about. They

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have thrown in their lot with you, as you would say, and whatever happens - be the day calm or the night dark and stormy to your physical minds - they are there, immovable, and will see that right is done, that right which the stronger you has suffered so much to make its own.

You are bound for a far shore, so it seems to you; but, by the miracle of God's love, that far shore can be brought to you and the waters in between dried up, even as the river of old.

Oh, be not despondent of time, of method, or of waiting. The waiting is not as you think, and God is overseeing all those details of your physical life which, remember, were framed - were chosen by you - in order to fit in with the great pattern. Yes, God is overseeing all, and you shall find, as I have said, that the golden shore - the Land of Promise - shall, by the miracle of His love, be forced towards you. And you, safe and secure, shall step on to its permanency, and know that faith has brought you through.

Ah, my children, I can carry you with me as I stand thus in your presence, but you ask yourselves whether it will be possible to keep the same attitude of mind when we are separated by physical sight and understanding...

Now, I have a message for you all. I say that the growing stages have reached the point when, if you exert just one more effort of will, you shall find yourselves secure in faith for evermore. Be watchful, dear children, of the straying thoughts - that is your only enemy now. And I say that if you bar the gate of your soul to those intruders, you shall find yourself established in a faith so strong, so all-enveloping, that God's work will be carried out in a way hitherto undreamt of by you all. And in like proportion so will the happiness come - so will the happiness come.

You are only safe when fettered to service, because you have reached that state of development when the desires of the flesh are superseded by the longings of the spirit within to find expression and expansion. Great, great has been your need during the past, and great, great has been the succour at hand on every occasion. Great, great will be your desire to rise and to contact with Heavenly things in the days to come; and great, great shall be your opportunities, because God has said: 'Seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you' (Matt. 7:7, Luke 11:9).

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That is my message tonight from the Most High, the Tender Father, the Loving Shepherd, the Understanding Christ. Take it and make it your own possession and cleave to it with might and main...

(Others than spoke...)

MOTHER ST. AGNES...

(Once of the R.C. Reparation Order, Spain)

...I thank my God that my prayers have been heard. I am a stranger to you all, but my name has been mentioned to you in connection with one who is far away (Ethel, the medium's sister), and you think that this applies equally in thought and in sympathy...

It is Mother St. Agnes. I give you this name because you will then understand what a wonderful thing it is that I should be allowed to speak to you in this way.

I found, when I came here, that Love - Love so stupendously greater than ever entered into my consciousness - that Love held the reins of government, and it only needed for one to go to the Feet of dear Jesus and ask to receive blessings - blessings and comfortings so rich, so numerous, that I could not go on... You see, great generosity stifles petitions. We - and I speak for those of my sisterhood - we just lay at the Feet of Jesus unable to ask what had been in our minds, because we saw all the gifts that lay there on either side without even one word being said; and among my treasures, Mrs Moyes, I found this jewel of service - this jewel of service to my fellow men and women.

I loved the dear Lord Jesus during my earthly days, but I see now that, in many ways, I did not understand Him. I got caught up in a maze of the representations of others and they hid Him from me - but only slightly. I know that now - yet, in a measure, they hid His Love from me - hid it, and in turn I rather veiled it from those I sought to serve the most.

I am changed, so changed that my dear child (Ethel) would hardly recognise that imperious woman in what I am now. Humbly I follow where others have gone before - in the greatest humility you could imagine - and I want you all, in thinking of me, to remember this: The great revelation which was mine as I stepped into the glorious day of God's love.

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I had, unconsciously, worked my bit of the pattern - perhaps in a way that showed too much self-will in it - but when I came here, seeking mercy, mercy from the dear Lord, all I found was reward beyond anything that I could have conjured up for the greatest saint that ever walked the earth. At His Feet I knelt for sentence - and at His Feet I learnt His Love.

Oh, if I could only tell you just a little of what the life of self-denial produces in this wonderful, glorious Land of God. If only those upon earth could have the faintest indication of what little sacrifices produced, they would pray for the opportunity to be given them. And I find now that my work for God - yes, Christ said it was for Him - that my work for God is going to be carried on now so that I can bring the other half of service, together with the half I did give, and make it complete in His sight as well as in my own.

My work is now in the busy streets, amongst the poorest of the poor, and I have chosen it myself. I have chosen to take the Cross into the vilest dens of human mistakes so that, in time to come, I may do that which was spared to my body - live with them, share of their days and nights, and yet be undefiled...

No, that is wrong. You see, in coming back in this way, a little of the old habit of thinking came as well. I wanted you to know that of my own choice I am with those who, from the earth point of view, are morally and physically perverted. But we who walk among them see only this: That the hideous can be turned into beauty, that vileness can be changed into holiness, that self can be laid aside in the service of the Master, and that this will be the end - yes, and the beginning as well - the end of mistakes and the beginning of understanding. And I, so sheltered from the world, now plunge myself into, as it were, the dustbin of the world, for love of my dear Christ.

Oh, how I would like this message to go forth to those who knew me and whom I tried to influence by my prayers. If only they could know how God has crowned my wish for service, and has given it into my hands to make those efforts during my earth's experience, complete and perfect and a gift worthy of the One to whom it belongs.

Mrs Moyes, remember me and wish me to come again. I have been working hard since I left the earth, in making myself familiar with your ways of thinking, of acting and of speaking; and it is to your city (London) that I have been allowed to come and to minister in His Name.

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(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

Well, my little ones, it has been a happy evening, hasn't it? - with so much peace on either side. And I want you to know that, from our point of view, good work has been done. And I am going to strengthen the cords of my control more and more so that my child and I may be able to work together in perfect unity, when good results will come as a matter of course...

Tonight I will close on just underlining what that dear boy has said to you on the question of 'birthdays'. He has got it right, and instead of that word 'milestones' on the journey of the spirit, will you try and substitute the word 'birthdays', because you will see at once it changes the whole complexion of the thing.

'Milestones' - a very good word itself - brings to the mind weariness, effort, strain, and the knowledge that when one is passed the road goes winding on and on, until innumerable milestones lie behind. It takes the heart out of one to contemplate those which you have already passed.

Now in regard to birthdays - the birthdays to which we refer - that has a more joyful sound altogether, because they are little birthdays which lead on, as you have been told, to the greatest birthday of all. And I want you to regard each experience, both mental, physical and spiritual, as a birthday of the soul which will enable it to gain the necessary strength, and also to gather to itself the inevitable happiness of going on and on until the glorious end of physical life - when you are born into the Life of joy, of perfect harmony, and of unity with your Father.

This is the thought, the last, I leave with you tonight: To so reconstruct your thinking that it will indeed seem to you, and to others, that each experience passed through has been a re-birth - renewing and adding holiness and power to the soul - which shall equip you and make you ready for all that which awaits you in the Land where the light fadeth not.

Courage, dear friends. Ah yes, but change the word again to this: 'Gladness', because you are getting on so fast, joy in the knowledge that each step nearer to Christ leaves sorrow farther behind and contentment takes its place; contentment in the realisation of all those countless millions who have trod the path before you, of those who are treading it

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with you, and an added comfort to recollect that even you - by so going forward - are making it easier for those who, as yet, are far behind.

Yes, look at the thing how you may, there is joy on every side and greater to come.

I bless you in the Name of the Father, of the Son, of the Holy Spirit - bless you in the Name of One who is Love Divine, unlimited and for ever. And under His blessing you will rest secure, preserved from all that would offend, and heartened and strengthened to go on, on towards the Light, the Light which cannot be dimmed, the Light of revelation which illumines all the by-paths of physical experience, and makes you realise your at-onement with the Master.

Goodnight, my little ones.



PARTIAL FAITH.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 17th August, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Divine Spirit of Heavenly Love, pour down upon us the light of faith. Bestow upon us that faith which shall stand erect in spite of all the opposing forces; that faith which shall lead us out of the darkness into the light - the light of revelation and of unity with Thee.

O Saviour Christ help us, heal us, raise us; and grant that we, Thy children, assembled here tonight - wishing to serve and wishing to contact with the things of the Spirit - grant that we may touch holiness and be free.

O tender, understanding Mind of Love, give to each one a blessing - that which their spirit longs for most: Peace and at-one-ment with Thee. Send down Thy power - Thy everlasting Love, which shall raise us up in faith and in certainty that with Thee all is well. Grant that this conviction may so find a resting place in the physical minds of Thy children that they may indeed find joy in the knowledge of their God...

...My little children, the conditions tonight are rather mixed by the thoughts and the experiences which you have had and undergone during the day, and I want you to aid me in the only way you can - to send out your sympathy towards my child, so that I may be able to use the instrument placed in my hands - use it for the furtherance of God's work.

There are among you tonight your dear ones in such volume, that you should all be conscious of a great peace and happiness within. They are here because the need is great; they are here because the enemy has been pressing close, and they are here to assure you once again of the prevailing, overwhelming influence of the Father.

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Oh, rest you content; believe if you can; and if you cannot, at this moment, separate yourselves sufficiently from the world to believe unquestioningly, then pray - pray that the eyes of the spirit may give sight to the eyes of the body, that the mind of the spirit may illumine that mind which at present, of necessity, is somewhat bound.

Oh, my children, my children, have I not said again and yet again, that I understand your deepest, your most hidden feelings, and all those thoughts which fret and torture you by their vain questionings, both during the silent hours of night and in the light of day amid the work at hand? I have said that we do understand this well, very well indeed - because, you must remember, we too have gone through the physical stages, and where is he with the mind who can say that he has been so steadfast in his faith that doubt has never been his companion?

You must remember that though now we are free and we see and we know, there were times too when the sorrows of the physical world crushed us down - crushed us down, yes, but only to raise us up, raise us up in power and in illumination - and that is my point tonight.

I have you all under my care - and many more than you could grasp - and because you have been given into my care by the Great Father, would it have been possible to place upon me, at once, this great responsibility and privilege, if I failed to understand the things that matter most to you all?

Again and again, the cry goes up to God for mercy - mercy, yes, because the shadows have so blinded you that in your grief, in your terrible sorrows, it seems that you cry in vain to One who is deaf and mute... But the days go on, and in time to come, that which tore your nerves is covered over until a chance word, perhaps, or a rough hand tears open the wound once more, when almost with its original vitality, pain surges up again and memory refuses to be silenced...

You see, I do know - I know it all. And because you suffer in this way, you shall reap that which now it would be impossible to present to your imagination. The way is hard and, to some, the gathering unto themselves of faith is harder still - and so the blow is doubled. Yet does that not explain to you something? Does not your reasoning mind cry out that there must be some explanation as to the reason for so much pain?... The explanation is at hand:

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My children - all my children - have chosen to find God quickly; they have decided within themselves that it is better to suffer greatly for a short time and to gain the goal, than to prolong and repeat that suffering when the body is laid aside...

Quite simple - and it must appeal to you as reasonable, and as fitting in with your practical experience of daily life. Yes, the knife cuts deep - but when there is much to do isn't it better to get it over and be free?

I speak thus tonight because amongst you, in different ways, there is much hidden sorrow - sorrow which, to your minds, you think could have been avoided; all of us think that it is the unnecessary - the apparently unnecessary - that tortures us most. And yet, dear children, I want you to gather in this thought - which is truth, as it comes through the myriad spheres from the Throne of God - that not one pang hereafter, shall not find its justification; and you then, with me and with those you love so well - you shall feel, as well as say: 'God's ways are best!'

And now, dear children, I am going to tackle once more that troublesome subject of faith: "Partial Faith".

It is not to be expected that you can get the thing intact in all its beauty, its power, its wide-spreading influence - it is not to be expected that you can make this your own during the physical stages. But, hereafter, it shall be yours; and those who have suffered most through doubt, against their will, they shall come back and, imbued with power from the Most High, shall again fight this most dangerous enemy for others - and shall prevail.

Faith, dear children, could carry you through - through the most tempestuous storm that you can imagine, if, ah, if it were only there. And tonight I am going to do my best to pass on to you some of the certainty which I thank my God I hold myself. But, little ones, it had to be fought for, it had to be earned - you cannot step into faith without giving out of yourself a very big return.

Those who come into physical life equipped with faith - and many do - if they have not made it their own individual and personal possession during the physical stages, then, hereafter, they have to work through the doubt of others in order to make that gift their own.

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Make no mistake: Everything relating to the spirit has to be worked for, prayed for, and suffered for. But because it was wished and prayed and suffered for, God is able to pour down upon you the joy which is of Him.

My children, I give you just a simple little illustration in regard to faith which may help you...

Picture to yourselves your life as a balloon - for so it seems to you. Hither and thither it is driven at the mercy of the wind; and you inside, so far as your own resources are concerned, are powerless to help yourself. Over the plains, the hills and the great wide sea it bears you, and often fear itself seems your only companion... You forget that God is overruling all. And then a time comes when even that fails you - or so you think. Something has gone wrong - a great catastrophe has happened - and then, as so often has been the case with those hardy travellers, you are forced to throw yourself off, clinging only to what appears to all the most insecure support there could be.

My children, have you ever considered the faith required by anyone in order to come down from a great height, dependent solely on a parachute? I want you to visualise, if you can, that dropping over the side. Yes, everything is in order so far as he can see, but there is always this question: 'Will it open - will the wind catch it in time to hold him up and, finally, to bring him safely to the firm land beneath?'

Now, my children, over some of the incidents - those catastrophies in your lives - it is even thus: It seems to you that the most trivial thing imaginable lies between you and the destruction - not of the physical body - but of that most precious thing called 'happiness'. Something has happened and you are forced to take a certain step - to rely upon God - and do I not know that anguish of despair as you find yourself, as it were, falling from most terrible heights into the depths beneath?

Faith - where is faith? Despair - ah, yes, that is there, and desperation too.

But, dear children, I should be wrong if I left this impression on your minds. I want you, in regard to faith, not to imagine that it is anything so flimsy or so unreliable as that which I have described. No - with regard to faith, things are quite different. It is only the shadows that represent life in this most terrible guise. All the while, be the day calm or be it rough,

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Christ walks beside you, protecting you, and throwing off that which would approach.

The mind may suffer - indeed, in order to grow it must suffer - but picture to yourself the difference between that simile of faith and what is really taking place: You are not falling - there is no terrible gap between you and safety. You are held by Christ; and I have told you before that if now and again you feel you are stumbling, then still more is Christ there to steady you, to encourage, and to lead you on.

Oh, my children, gather in this comfort if you can tonight. Try more and more to say to yourself: 'Blind I may be, but Christ sees for me, and with Him I am safe!'

Until you can, in a measure, get this attitude of mind - the suffering, the feeling of isolation, and despair will go on. But you are nearer to the end than you think. You have read many times, with reassurance, that no man is tempted beyond his strengths, and the sentence should read thus: 'That God will not allow anyone to be tempted by evil beyond their strength'. That is a plain statement and no one would dare to refute it.

You suffer - the shadows are pressing - but I say that now and always the protection is complete because, as you know yourself, you emerge from the darkness into the light. And that is but a simile of what so-called death represents - that final emerging from the twilight of earthly experience into the light of revelation, when Love surrounds you for ever and for ever, and joy is your natural environment, because you are living in God's Eternal Day.

My children, I must not speak too long tonight because there are many anxious to come, but I want you to continue your help throughout the evening because my child has need of it, for reasons you do not understand. I must have sympathy and understanding and thoughts of power, in order to give you that for which you long so much... Yet, as I speak, I see that God's Will will be done, so, meeting a little in sadness, we shall separate in joy and in peace...

(Others then spoke...)

MR SELWYN...

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...I want to make things a bit clearer to those who, perhaps, don't really understand. In regard to this 'mediumship', as you call it - we don't look at it like that, but you have got in the way of regarding it as mediumship - well, in order to get the work done, certain tests, as well as preparation, have to be faced.

I'd like to tell you really what does happen when we are here. It is not easy to describe spiritual things in physical language, but I think you would like me to try.

Well, when Winnie is sitting on that chair, before the prayer is finished, the body is vacated. You must understand this: That with such a wonderful leader as Zodiac, what seems to you almost an automatic transference, is made so only by his marvellous linking up... I've done badly but I cannot do better... What you have got to grasp is this: The body is never vacated for one second of time - it can't be. Directly the spirit starts the process of removal so - as you would say - inch by inch, is the other presence occupying the space which is vacant. And you know this well, without my telling you, that if anyone stepped in between the body vacated by the rightful owner and the spirit, which is just beyond it, well, what you call 'death' might ensue. I only say 'might' because with a leader like ours - through whom God is able to work so perfectly - ordinary rules do not stand.

When we are speaking through Winnie, she is so close to us that she is conscious, not only of the physical side of her own body, but of the things which affect us in a physical sense - but not in a spiritual. During the sleep state only is that possible - when the body is left behind.

Now, I am telling you this because I want you to know that while 'under control' - to her own sensitiveness, of necessity, is added part of the sensitiveness of the person speaking, which they had when upon earth, but not what they feel now.

You see it takes some thinking out. The sensitiveness that we feel now is so enormously greater than when we were protected by the body, that it would be impossible for anyone still in the physical body to bear the burden...

I've got an enormous amount of power tonight. It seems that, at last, I am getting my heart's desire...

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Then as to the conditions in this room: I want you to try and imagine a million, million lines of light. Some of them are from your own thoughts; some are from those who are assembled here who love you. In addition to these, which are considerable, there are those wonderful lines of light - I can think of no better expression - which are a gift direct from God. They belong not to your world at all - they are brought by your leader in order to so intertwine you that, for the time being, the destructive forces can find no entry at all. Their beauty, their harmony, their power, I cannot touch upon because it goes too deep.

And by Dorrie's side there is one... a great penman. Now, Dorrie, I want you to know this: You have wondered - and others still more - why your hand holds out. Well, in addition to the Heavenly Ones - the Messengers of God - there is, by your side, one who, during his earthly life, was a great penman, and he, all unconsciously to yourself, he holds your hand. Sometimes we go too fast for him as well as for you - and then we not only have to pay back to you, but we have his reproaches to stand in addition.

You see, he doesn't like his charge imposed upon too much. From what I have told you, you will understand that being in conditions so entirely non-physical - if I may use the term 'distractions', in the way of speech or movement beyond certain limits allowed for your comfort, does serious damage. You cannot mend spiritual conditions by physical means; and the spiritual conditions are of so fine a weaving that much effort, much time, and much praying as well, is necessary in order to make everything complete.

Your leader, acting for God - or, rather, God allows him to act for Him - brings into this room such holiness that you can imagine how we long to come, to be part of it, to feel that we - though not worthy of it, of course, but even unworthy - are allowed to enter in, to take part, and to leave our little mark behind.

There is much I can't explain - the greater part - but I want you, if you can, to try and put yourselves in the position of the instrument so used - so absolutely at the mercy, so it seems, of things - thoughts and vibrations which don't belong to her.

I want you to try and get hold of that idea, and to realise that there is a nervous strain which is greater than any other experience could bring, because here and yet not here, she willingly - sometimes reluctantly - is

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forced to take part in it all; and the loss of identity is more troubling than you can imagine.

I hope I've managed to get a little though. When it is written out, perhaps it will be clearer...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I have heard a lot about myself tonight - Zodiac does this and Zodiac does that - I must be quite an important person. Yet I would not check them too much because I like my children sometimes to think of me thinking of them. You know, when there is someone you love very much, it is nice to know that not only do they love you, but that their thoughts are all around you - and that's how I feel tonight.

My thoughts indeed are all around you in a way, of course, you couldn't understand. But I want you, if you will - I entreat you - to get into that very happy way of regarding me as someone who is not only overseeing your lives, but who is very dependent upon you for his joy... You see, as I have said before, parenthood is only half - or less than half - of what it was meant to be, when most of the love is only on the one side. As with all love, there must be a counterpart - that which meets the other - if it is to bring any joy at all.

And so, my little ones - here and outside - I want you to remember that Zodiac is very dependent upon you for happiness - for real gladness - and that when he sees you happy and in sympathy with him, then - well, life, from all aspects, is just as beautiful as it could be.

In saying this, I want you to carry on your thinking a little further, and to remember that Christ, your Saviour, your Companion, your Protector, is very much in the same position: He wants you to give what you can to Him. The Love goes on all the same - you know that, of course - whether you can find it in your heart to love Him or not.

But, as was said just now, there are many people who cannot take unless they give - it goes against the grain. And that's my last word: It goes against the grain to take of that wonderful, overwhelming, unlimited Love, which the Father showers upon His children - unless those little ones make a real effort to give of themselves in return.

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And now, my children, the blessing - which is of peace, of healing, of renewed faith, and fresh courage - the blessing of the Holy Spirit rests on you, and can be held close to you, if only you commend yourselves to God ever and ever again.

Goodnight, my little ones.



BROTHERHOOD.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 24th August, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

My children, tonight we are going to talk a little about a very great subject; and that is, what is termed in your world: 'Brotherhood' - that great fraternity which is used, or was meant to be used, as a protecting cloak for all times of trouble, of stress, or of common danger.

I want you to consider with me tonight one or two features of that same brotherhood. In your world, you must admit that very few have been able to reach more than a proportion of the ideal which they set out to be their aim and purpose. I do not want you to think that I am criticising these efforts, but if you look at the use, or misuse, of that word 'brotherhood', you will find that even with the most idealistic, its borders are narrow and that it has serious limitations - the most serious, to us, being that it confines itself to a certain section, and does not admit the rank and file into a share of the benefits reserved for the few.

All those attempts to form unions or societies for the protection of this or that, or for the development of action - in the way of well organised thought - all these movements have a very great value and, naturally, according to the effort put into them, so will the members rejoice, hereafter, that they heard the call - from whatever direction it might have come.

Tonight, however, I want to lead you on from the earth point of view to the spiritual. I want you to realise that this banding together, this concentrated effort, is symbolical of what is going on, on our side, in a gigantic way. But there is this great difference: Over here, people of similar sympathies naturally congregate together, just as they do upon earth. At the same time, they are not so conservative as you are - they have not got that clannish feeling which so often, with the children of the earth, makes great barriers. Indeed, these barriers are so definite that they have the effect of estranging one from the other, and making those

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who were fast friends, enemies - in a permanent sense, which they will bitterly regret once they come here and see things as they are...

You see, my children, all these unions and societies are but outward forms of that great, deeply-embedded instinct of brotherhood - in which, of course, I include sisterhood as well, but 'brotherhood' is the generally accepted term...

I want you, if you can, to imagine the difference between the spiritual and the mental aspects of those banded together in great movements for the betterment of humanity. I want you to consider the different methods adopted by those in the Spirit World and those who - when they were upon earth - did much in that way to strengthen the ties of sympathy, not only between individuals, but very often between peoples and nations as well.

The first thing that such a one has to learn on this side, is to get rid of his exclusiveness - to work out of his mind that feeling, either of criticism or of alienation, which he experienced towards those who differed from him entirely, or to the extent that they refused to join that which was so near to his own heart.

Yes, dear children, when you get spiritual sight you realise how these differences crop up. You see at once that it is not always obstinacy or blindness - deliberate blindness - as the physical mind imagines so often; that in the composition of this one or that, there are such fundamental differences of character that it is almost impossible for them to see eye to eye even with the friend they once prized so much.

Mind, in defending the outsider, I am not blaming the one who strives so hard to convince, but I say that when both outsider and insider meet in the Realms of the Spirit they will - if they have the love of God in their hearts in any degree - they will be the first to laugh at their own points of view, and then to hasten on the linking up of that which will make the once defective sympathy perfect and complete, as God intended...

You see, dear children, you must have a very wide, open mind in regard to everything because, consciously or unconsciously, you belong to the great Brotherhood of Humanity - not to a sect, a belief, a race, or a creed. These divisions fall to the ground when you see things as they are, for whether you recognise it or not, you all belong to the great brotherhood under Christ; and whatever their belief, whatever their opinions may have

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been or will be in the days to come, you are brother to man and man is brother to you.

My children, I did refer to the formation of such movements on This Side, and I do not want you to get a false impression in regard to this. We are just as systematic and as business-like as you are upon earth, but it is not necessary to draw up forms of membership or long lists of rules. Indeed such things would embarrass us more than you can imagine. No, thought and individuality wipe out for all time those 'materialisations' of thought and being which are necessary when the real self is hidden - or only partly revealed - by the body.

That, perhaps, is a little difficult for you to understand, but I want you to get it clearly in your minds that although we have an uncountable host of such movements - I use the earth expression: 'On This Side' - yet they differ so enormously that it is impossible to parallel them with what you have upon earth.

You see, dear children, human nature does not change, and more than that, in some respects those qualities which were possessed during the earth's experience are enormously stronger when they are allowed to have full development, unrestricted by the limitations of the physical mind. Therefore a man who did good - or wished to do good - while upon earth, immediately he finds his feet, as it were, over here, concentrates not only on doing the same good but, having spiritual sight, on getting nearer - much nearer - the ideal than was possible when he was in the body.

I tell you this in order to build up in your minds some faint conception of the power there is in you all - the power not only to do while you are in your present environment, but also the hidden resources which are stored up in man's soul, and which can, almost instantly, be put into action in a way hitherto undreamt of - even by the most advanced - before they come here and see what lies behind creative thought.

Now, my children, this does not apply simply and solely to those religious or social movements which were born in the minds of men and women during their physical experience - it applies also to those which were more on a destructive than constructive side. And here, I want you to consider how wonderfully God's will is worked out, because those who were out to pull down - inspired, no doubt, by the very best motives there could be - but those whose tendency was to strike at the work of others, they see when they come here, what true brotherhood can mean. It is rather a

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shock - I am not referring to any one sect or another - but it comes as rather a shock to all...

Unfortunately, in the world, there has always been that criticism of another's methods which has led to strife - strife and persecution too - as you know well without my referring more directly to it... You see, dear children, spiritual sight is not reserved for one here and there. To all who have wished, anyhow, to do something that mattered - to add, even in a misguided way, something to the building up of that greater self within - all these, when they come here, if they have any wish to learn, are given that most precious gift of spiritual sight.

And then, as I have said, sometimes they laugh at their own foolishness - and sometimes they sorrow instead. But the result is always the same - to bring about, with as little delay as possible, that readjustment of ideas, throwing away the chaff, and gathering up the treasure of the good grain, knowing that even in their blindness, very often, they were able to construct something - something which belonged to Christ.

I want you, in thinking over this great subject of Brotherhood, to remember always that - whether you like it or not, whether you are willing to accept my dictum or not - that you are now and forever a member of the great Brotherhood of Humanity, and you cannot sever that tie however much you may wish to do so, or however much it goes against the grain.

You see, dear children, in saying this, I am not destroying your hopes of harmony in the World of the Spirit - indeed I am showing you the only way in which it can be maintained. The discord upon earth, the wrangling, the hatred, the real deep-seated enmity - even between those who should know better - all this has a disastrous effect on those beautiful vibrations of peace which are brought down into your midst - into the midst of mankind - in a way impossible for you to imagine.

I want you to think of this over and over again. People exclaim at the unrest there is in the world today... My children, ever since the world started, they have said the same thing, and it has been true in a way that would make us sorrowful if we did not see that out of the strife and the discord there were those who were strong enough to raise themselves above it and to find God in spite of all.

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My children, I said that peace was brought into your midst, and I would like you to take this thought and make it your own, if you can: Picture to yourself - for you must have a physical illustration - peace as a beautiful cloud of gold and pink and blue... I smile when I use the names of your colours because they are such a crude expression of what I am trying to convey... But, anyhow, picture to yourself peace, beautiful beyond anything that can be imagined by the physical mind; and this beauty being, as it were, sent down from the bright spheres - not now and again when a war is on or when disease has humanity in its grip - but always; every day, every hour, every minute - this wonderful, beneficent peace comes from God Himself - in an unlimited way and unceasingly, and will until man finds his peace in Christ at last...

Well, dear children, it must seem to you sometimes, that it has very little effect upon the minds and hearts of those who are responsible for the running of the world. Yet, I would have you pause awhile. Is it not so that many discords, many divergencies of opinion, are healed over and over again; that agreements are come to in spite of the most bitter opposition which held the ground in the first instance? Is it not true that even in wars, the longing for peace comes to both sides at last? And, were it not for this wonderful gift from the Most High, I could not say the same.

So you see, little ones, that, perhaps, you have overlooked that evil has not the world in its grip, as might appear at first glance. For is it not so that quarrels of all kinds are smoothed out, that anger dies down, that bitterness loses its sting? Why, yes, you see it on all sides, not only in your great world - or such it seems to you - but in the centre of family life, even amongst the children there is the desire to kiss and be friends.

Oh, my children, I do want you to see in these little earth signs, the first tiny seeds of preparation for what is - and must be - in the Realms of the Spirit where harmony is in command. You all love the sound of 'harmony' because it represents, so often, that which you are without, or which has come to you in such a pathetically limited way that hardly have you grasped it when other forces have snatched it from you.

Therefore, by its very elusiveness, it has grown doubly precious to you. And I want you, if you can, to try and build up in your minds the impression that although harmony may escape you now, yet, by the fact that you love harmony, you are bringing it into your conditions in a way absolutely unthought-of. And those conditions, as you know, will provide your environment hereafter, and that which was absent during part of the

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physical stage shall be your own possession in all its loveliness and power when the body is laid aside.

I want you to feel that though people in your world are rather limited in their sympathies and in their understanding, yet over here those differences will be laid aside - that both you and they will realise that all the time you were linked together - linked together as children of Christ. And because of this most sacred tie, you, in turn, will do your part to build up something of that spirit of brotherhood, which would turn this sad old world of yours into a haven of love and peace.

It can't be done, of course - but still, even the wish that it might be possible, helps a little towards the ideal. And because strife and discord and disagreements seem almost terribly prominent now, it does not free you, and it does not free them from that responsibility - which I emphasise with all the power I can - that of linking up of one life with the other, and the banding together of all under the great Fatherhood of God.



CHRIST - THE COMPANION OF ALL.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 31st August, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Creator of all Life, we meet together tonight in thankfulness that Love holds its sway over all. We ask Thee to bless us, to comfort us, to lift us above the world and to give us that peace which passeth all understanding - the peace which comes from being in touch with Thee and with those who are in the Bright Realms of the Spirit...

O Holy Father, give us understanding - give us that enlightenment which shall show us that the earthly path, dark though it seems, leads straight into the Light - when darkness is no more...

O prepare us - prepare our minds for this further, greater revelation of Love - when blindness will be turned into sight... Prepare our minds, O God, and grant that no power of evil shall close us in again or seek to separate us from those we love, and those who love us so well.

In Thy Hands, O Tender Saviour, we leave everything - doubt, misgiving, all those stabs of pain - leave them in Thy Sacred Hands, knowing that all is well, because Thou hast promised to lead Thy children out of the wilderness into the Land of Promise.

Father, we thank Thee, we bless Thee - thank Thee with complete humility that always between us and Thee is the ever-open door and that nothing is strong enough to close it while we wander elsewhere... We praise Thy Name for ever and ever. Teach us how to worship Thee, teach us how to know Thee - as much as we can grasp, until we see Thee face to face...

Christ - The Companion of All

...Good evening, my children, and I am very happy indeed to be amongst you once again. You know how it is when friends or companions are divided for a little space of time: It seems sometimes, that outside influences - yes, and your own thoughts as well - that these come in between and there is missing that perfect harmony, that glorious certainty in the love of the one for the other.

And so tonight, my children, I say I am glad to be here, because when I am not with you in a physical sense like this, it seems, perhaps, that Zodiac has forgotten his responsibilities in regard to the little children that he has taken under his care.

Now, I want to speak about that a little. You see, I have adopted you - you didn't, adopt me - because you didn't know that I existed. No, it was I - and right back in the early days of each one - I make no exception - I sought you, I found you, and I gathered you in.

Just because the years passed by and you did not know of my existence, that does not say that I did not know of yours; and I want you, in thinking about me, to do away for ever with the remembrance of the first time we met in this way, and to say to yourself: 'Yes, but long before that, in the sleep state, Zodiac and I were friends!' Friends and companions in a way you little understand, because our friendship and our companionship has the direct blessing of God upon it - and that makes all the difference with ties of these kinds.

Yes, all of you, here and outside this immediate circle, all of you belong to me, under Christ. And because I have been commissioned to watch over your lives, to direct them and to guide them - when you will allow it - because of this, I am able to protect you and to fend off the enemy again and again.

My children, it seems to you that the shadows have struck you without any protection at all - yet does it not suggest something to your minds that again and again we meet here? And there lies your answer. Yes, the shadows approach, they torture your minds, and because, dear children - I must say it - because you do not strike them off at once, they are able to stay, to linger by you a little and to make you suffer a lot...

But their time is limited, for this great reason: That God has given you into my charge, and I know when sorrow binds you, it is but for a time - the clouds will break, and the sun of harmony, of understanding, and of

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sympathy, will shine in upon your chilled hearts and minds and winter will give place to spring...

It is a great big world that you are in - to your minds; interests are so varied, people are so preoccupied with their own affairs that loneliness - that most terrible 'isolation of the soul', as you call it - comes very close and makes its presence felt in a way that, at times, is almost terrifying.

But I have a word of comfort even here. I smile, dear children, when you talk of the 'isolation of the soul', by which you mean the very essence within - that intimate, greater self, which only you - you think - knows anything about... I smile, dear children, because it is such a contradiction of even commonsense. How could the soul - that spiritual side of you - be isolated, be left alone for one second, when the world of the Spirit is all around you - when those from the brightest realms come again and again with power and with love to succour you in your time of need? How could the real 'you' be lonely in such an environment? It is the physical mind only that suffers; but because it suffers - by its very limitations of outlook and understanding - that suffering is added, automatically, as treasure to the bigger self within.

But it is not God's will that even that physical mind of yours should be bearing this burden. Have I not told you again and again that Christ came into the physical body so that He might understand the individual experience of each one? And I would underline this in a most definite way. I said that Christ came into man's form so that He might understand the individual point of view of all - and this is true in every particular.

Now, listen to me: Even in your world today there are 'sensitives', whom you call 'mediums', who are able to feel and to experience, in a very definite manner, the thoughts and the feelings of others... But we will take a lesser illustration - To you all this has come: When those you love are in the clutch of any great feeling - joy or grief - have you not said: 'I knew it, because I felt it myself'? The love between you has made the connection which allowed spirit and spirit to contact - and for the moment - to be as one.

And then from the lesser to that which is greater. In your world the mediums, the instruments of God - for indeed they should be of God, if they are to remain intact from evil - these instruments of God have, to a certain degree, extricated themselves from the physical, the material environment which surrounds the majority. They have emerged from the

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coarser into the finer vibrations of feeling, of sight, and of hearing, and according to their development and the effort put into their labours, so are they able - indeed they cannot help it - to experience the feelings, the emotions, and even the intimate thoughts of others.

Now, dear children, it should not be hard for you, taking these little stages, to imagine something of what Our Lord went through during His earthly sojourn. He, so sensitive, so pure, so entirely Spirit - in the sense that He had conquered the flesh - He, as you can comprehend, was never free from the burdens of others. Literally, Christ came to earth not only to bear His own portion of struggle, of so-called failure and of death, but during those years of manhood, was as a magnet in drawing out the thoughts and the feelings of others - being keyed to such fine vibrations that it was impossible for Him to shut Himself off from the lives of those about Him, and this applies to the multitude as well...

When it is said that Christ came to bear the burdens of the world, remember this, dear children: That this burden was not only taken up then and has been going on ever since, but started right back in the beginning of creation. Yet had not God assumed man's form and lived among the children of the earth, not one of you could have taken it in that God understands all that you feel - all that you want to be and cannot rise to - and therein lies the greatest pain of all.

You cannot love Christ, even in the smallest way, without suffering thus. How many of you do not vow each morning that you will do better, yet, as night comes round again, you look back on what to you seems failure - failure of the greater nobler self within? But I say even if the day seems like that to you, and you still wish to go on, and still wish to imitate the Master, you shall find, hereafter, that you came closer to your desire than could be imagined now, however much I might assure you...

You see, for all, I have words of comfort. I do not want you to regard life as an enemy in the way you do. You are not antagonised to Christ as some of you think. The troubles of the day and the pains of the body come in between you and the Light which shines from Him, but He does not move one inch because of that. Indeed, dear children, could you but see things as they are, you would find that it was simply this: In front of you stands the Light of the World - your Christ, yes, your Saviour and your Father too. But remember that these Names make no barrier at all, for isn't He also your Companion and Protector?

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Standing thus, with the Light of the World shining upon you, you should be able to go forward in confidence. But what happens is that you droop your head so low that all you see is the ground beneath, and that is dark and ugly. If you could but remember to raise your eyes, then the Light of His Presence - instantly - would shine upon your face, and you would know, as I have said, that just the wish to love God and to do His will ensures an illumined way, and protection on either side.

Oh, be not disheartened if at times it is too difficult for you to raise your eyes to where Christ stands. Remember that even though you lack the strength, Christ is there all the same, and nothing could be strong enough to separate Him from you - and that is what I want you to consider. The shadows, it seems, separate you from the Master, but because darkness and light have nothing in common, no force of evil could ever separate God from you. He is your Father, and the Father does not desert His little children in their hour of need...

Oh, my children, tonight my whole being is filled with joy because I see everywhere light and hope and certainty.

Don't you know the journey which the physical mind has always to go through in order to reach happiness? First of all it has to extricate itself from its bonds - yes, even as a prisoner in a dark dungeon, so is the physical mind, before it hears the call to arise and go to meet its God. But the smallest movement in the heart in the way of effort makes it possible for the prisoner to look up, and there - out of the prison window, may be - but there he sees a little of the light of the great big world without... That is the first step. The second is hope, and then how to get free...

Little do you know it but there are very few who, during their earthly experience, are not even as prisoners, bound by the limitations and the exactions of the body. But hope is there - he sees the light - and rises in a vain endeavour, so it seems to him, to reach that which is so desirable.

You see, dear children, I am trying to build up in your minds some idea of the position as presented to you. It appears to you, that although you arise and peer at the light, you can do little more - you are bound by your chains and fastened within a locked door. You all know that feeling, you have said: 'Yes, the light is there but how can I reach it? Between me and freedom there is that thick impenetrable obstacle of lack of faith, of circumstances, and of physical disabilities, which I cannot break through!'

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But with God all things are possible and, even as the disciple of old found when he answered to the Voice of the Spirit, the prison doors were opened and he walked forth free from all that bound - and so it is with you. Once the desire comes to make that light your own, it is only a question of effort, of dedication, and of preparation - to find those seemingly impenetrable walls exist no longer, and that you can step forth into that which of all things is the most glorious, both in your world and in our realms over here - into certainty...

Now, dear children, you know that there is no joy which is perfect if it holds one petal of doubt. No, it must be free from questionings and misgivings if it is to bring you the happiness that it represents - and so I say, that the last stage is glorious indeed. You step out free from the world, from your heart-aches, from the doubts of the questioning mind - step into the light of understanding of the Love of God. And then certainty - which means contentment and completeness - so fills your heart and mind, that there is no room for those other half-joys to enter in - just certainty that God does not fail, that what He has said was not meant to be interpreted in this way or that, but stands as it is. 'I am the Light of the World' He said, and in so saying He knew that death had far less evil in it than doubt and misgiving and all those tortures which sting the physical mind again and again...

Believe in God. Go through your records, through the sacred script which you call the Bible, and you will see - if only you read it aright - that what God has once given, that He never takes away, and that the Master fulfils His promises down to the tiniest detail. You will find it so hereafter in such a comprehensive wide-stretching way, that you will be amazed at the magnitude of Love laid out before your wondering eyes.

My children, I will not keep you longer tonight because there are others who wish to speak, and the little I want to say in regard to myself I will bring in in my closing words, so that you may not forget them easily... No, so that the shadows may not induce you to forget them.

You see, dear children, I am human, and when anything comes between me and my little ones, perhaps I am inclined to put things, at first, in a different way to that which I find reflected by the Mind of the Great Example of us all...

(Others then spoke...)

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ARCHDEACON WILBERFORCE...

...It is Wilberforce, and I give my name in the very beginning because I do not want my friend here (Mr Wilson) to be under any misunderstanding... It is Wilberforce and I am thankful indeed once more to be amongst you in this way.

We have done work of a character which will tell, during the time which has elapsed since I was here before, and I mention that because I want you to understand that absence in the physical sense does not mean absence in any other sense at all...

I have much that I could say and there are many questions - those which I raise myself - which I should like to go into, to qualify and revise by what I have seen in these wonderful, glorious, uncountable Realms of the Spirit.

My friends, I will speak tonight on a subject which, I think, has some of you a little misgiving; and that is in regard to conditions when the body has run its course. I want you to follow me if you can; it will not be easy because I am talking - or trying to explain - that which no language can portray, but I wish to remove, if possible, certain wrong impressions which are in the minds of some of the younger ones here tonight.

When I came here - I cannot even use those words 'came here' because I found that for some time past I had been in those very conditions in which I found myself after so-called 'death'. You will find the same; you will find when the body is laid aside that, hidden from your physical sight and understanding, your 'being' - the real you - was partaking in that which is of the Spirit only - all unconsciously though it might have been to that mind which hides so much from us when we are in the flesh...

My thoughts when I came into my own were something like this: 'If the world of the Spirit has been so close to me, with its wondrous and glorious conditions of illumination, how was it that sadness came so close, even though faith persisted?'

I want you to bear with me a little while, while I try to work out, in outline, what this represents. You see, dear friends, that in the composition of us, all that which seems to you the all-important, the tangible, the visible, the so-called permanent - all that is only imagery of

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the conditions which obtain in the Spirit; and it is imagery which will pass away, because it merely reflects that which is the real...

I want you to get this truth into your understanding: The life upon earth, useful to a degree that we cannot comprehend until we come here, is in its entirety, nothing but a reflection, a shadow of the real things, which are going on underneath - the growth of the spirit, desire, the gaining of experience, and that putting forth of the branches of power.

Let not yourself dwell upon physical things and the material conditions which surround your daily life - let not your thoughts dwell upon them; master them and control them so far as you are able - yes, and remember always that they are but shadows of the real.

Ponder upon the things of the Spirit, upon those conditions in which you will find yourself, for I tell you, in the most emphatic way I can, that when you emerge from the twilight of the earth's experience into the noon-day of God's Promised Land, you will find this: Permeating everything, controlling, overwhelming all that has been built up, either in the worlds of the Spirit or upon earth, you will find Love and Charity holding the reins of government on every side...

You see what is in front of you. You see the lessons that have to be learnt, re-learnt, and those things which have to be forgotten. You will come here with your thoughts of each - the memories of the physical mind persist for a while - and you will come face to face with Love in such an awe-inspiring way that those thoughts will wither up. And you, with a cleansed heart and mind, will take up your task anew - take it up in this sense: That what has been, you will turn over and start again. You will go back over the past - for what a man sows that shall he also reap - and you will re-mould that which you created in ignorance - you will re-mould it nearer to the ideal - and God and His angels will be there to help you and to show you how to do it...

I want you, tonight, to bear in mind, that you are sufficiently prepared to take in this great truth - are indeed in a fortunate position. You can say to yourself: 'Here and now I start afresh and, also, here and now I go back on the past and make good that which, with larger vision, I see is faulty'. You can do that now. And then, when you step free from the physical into the Land where sorrow is unknown, you will find that all the time those bonds which seemed to bind you while in the flesh, that they

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existed in imagination only, because you had knocked at the door of Spiritual Understanding - and Christ had opened it and let you in.

Oh, my dear friends, can you not imagine how we long to give others the benefit of this great gift? Cannot you imagine how you would feel yourself, knowing the glorious liberty, that wonderful achievement in the way of raising self into selflessness, and the enormous opportunities of working for God and lifting up humanity? Would you not long to spread the good news, and to say to all: 'Pause awhile; don't do that, don't think that, because when you come here you will see it was the wrong way round; and the right way is so beautiful, so constructive, so all-joyful, that you cannot start too soon in putting it into action'?

I will, on another occasion, try and tell you a little more about the Realms of the Spirit, but whatever I said, I could not tell you more than I have told you tonight in this great sense: That everything here - for those who tried to follow in the Master's steps - everything here is translated into, and interpreted by that one word 'Love', and in that one word are all the glories, the beauties, and the powers which could be imagined, however advanced you might be...

I shall come again, I hope, at an early date, because there are those here who miss me; but I am working with you always, and if, sometimes, you think I am absent, then remember that in the Spirit, space, time divisions, separations, all fall to the ground. We are one great family in Christ, and wherever you may be or whatever calls there may be upon you, that close, intimate family life is never interfered with, and we are - at a thought - in perfect communion with you and nothing is strong enough to come in between...

I want you, if you can, to strive still more - to strive and yet not to be disheartened if you seem to fail; to remember that hereafter all will be made plain, and then living as a matter of course in the environment of Love, you will find that all thoughts which are not of Love will be alien to you, and they will cause you pain until they are brought into harmony with that which abounds on every side...

I am afraid, my friends, I've rather given you a sermon, and I did not mean it in the least. You will understand, I know, that in coming back into a physical body, the old habits reassert themselves - but the heart is not the same. Goodnight...

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(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I am not going to attempt more tonight because, as you know, time is not elastic, and there is much to be got through with the usual tasks of every-day life. But I want just to sum up in a brief way, if I can, the messages you have had tonight.

First of all, you had that plain statement in regard to Love, which indeed is true in every detail. Then you had the reminder that we over here are human - very human, in our longing for love and remembrance. And then you had - it was so symbolical I thought - that struggle of love against the shadows, against that which tried to come in between, and - thank God - the Father triumphing in the end. Lastly, our little friend who - in obedience to my wish - refrained from giving the great comfort which was in her power.

Don't you see, my children, how each one works for God in doing the next thing? - the little tasks at hand - and sometimes it means a struggle, and sometimes they have to go away leaving an impression which it is within their power to destroy - the impression that no comfort is forthcoming in the way most desired.

I mention this because I want you to realise, if you can, that when you are a soldier of Christ, it means that you are willing to take orders - to follow your Leader, not to argue with Him or defy Him - and when you come here you will find that indeed you are soldiers, and that you will rejoice in laying aside your own will in order to work out to perfection the plan of the Great One who goes on in front.

And then I come right down to myself. I want you to grasp a little more that in guiding you, my children, I did not choose the way. You chose the way of your earthly experience - chose it with the spirit. And because, of necessity, the physical mind is hampered in its perceptions, I said I would tread it with you, in order, so far as I am able, to help when it was over-steep or over-rough...

My children, I have not the power you think; and then again, I have much more power than you give me credit for. I have not the power to take from you the experiences which your spirit has taken on of its own accord - God could not intervene in a case like that, but where my power comes in - given to me in such a lavish way by the All-Loving - is to soothe, to heal the wounds, and to encourage, so that you may get over that which

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troubles you now so much and be free to expand - to grow spiritually into the likeness of that which your spirit intends to reach.

My powers, coming from God, are unlimited in this respect; also - and because of this - my responsibilities are unlimited likewise. So I want you to try hard to gather in this thought; not to grieve over this or that which seems to have gone wrong, or seems to have left you desolate - but to face the position with firmness - to say to yourself: 'I have chosen this path and, therefore, I will get on with the journey as quickly as I can'. If you can say this, then in the very act of doing and of being, I can prove to you that my power is unlimited, because, as you strive, so the help comes from the Throne of God. And as you struggle, so is the strength given to you. And as you emerge from the bonds of the physical, so are the robes of Immortality thrown over you and you are made one in aim and one in purpose with us all - all who are fighting with Christ to overthrow that which is destructive to happiness and to the fulfilment of the Promise that, in the end, we shall be one with Divinity Itself...

That is my last word, and I shall look after you all during the coming week and throw around you those cords of love which, with God's help, shall bring you through...

God's blessing be on you all, and His peace be gathered unto you and made your own, for Christ's sake... Amen.



SPIRITS AND THE SPIRITUALISING OF SELF.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 7th September, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Gracious and Almighty Spirit, we hand our bodies, our minds, and our souls into Thy loving care, knowing that Thou hast provided for all things and that with Thee everything is secure.

Heavenly Father, pour down upon us tonight the spirit of peace, the spirit of understanding, and the spirit of unity with those who are in the Bright Realms - those who are with us this evening, bringing with them as willing gifts, that happiness and brightness which they have made their own through sorrow and through the very pain that sought to hinder them.

O God, Thy little children, so limited, so dependent upon others, have to turn to Thee again and again for succour, for strength, and for that enlightenment which brings faith in its train - that faith which says to each one: 'Christ has my soul in safe custody, therefore nothing can strike the body unless I turn from Him.'

O Holy and most blessed Spirit of Love, draw us up from the physical - away from the memory of the things of the world - draw us up in thought so that the unity between us may be complete, and that we may carry on the work which Thou hast given us without misgiving and without the thought of failure to hold us back...

...Tonight, my children, I must go a little slowly at first because there has been much movement, and I have considerable work to do in order to close the gaps - to weld the conditions here into a solid whole.

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To you, my own dear children, it sounds rather strange that Zodiac should be limited in this way. You have rather a happy attitude in regard to me, which dismisses the things of the physical as of no account, because of the power which can be drawn upon at will from the Realms of the Spirit - under God's command.

Well, my children, it is not quite like that, and I want you to know that my power is only unlimited when I am given the conditions suitable for harmonising the physical and the material with the spiritual and holy. Once that contact is made - that weaving together, that sealing down of the conditions - then indeed, as a gift from God, my power is almost unlimited, but I must have co-operation - co-operation from you - both in thought, in action, and in method.

I tell you this because I know how much you long to get on, to work through the preliminary stages, and to feel that the boat in which you are, can, by the effort of those at the oars, be sent swiftly on to the land of right desire.

My children, it lies very much in your own hands - in this way: You have been told again and again, that only in the silence, in the quietness of the Spirit, can the Voice of God be heard; and more and more do I entreat you to remember this - to underline it in your minds again and again... In the silence only can you shed the physical sufficiently to contact with the real things of the Spirit.

And here I draw a very thick and broad line of demarcation between contacting with 'the things of the Spirit', and with those who are free from their physical bodies...

Nowadays, there is that tendency to class together as 'Spirit' all those who have finished their earthly experience: But I am here to declare that such is not the case in any particular.

In speaking of the things of the Spirit, you are inferring that which, anyhow, desires to be holy or to contact with the things of God. And yet, as you know, my children, there are many, many who have passed out of physical life who still cling to the things of the material world, and turn their face from those which are of the Light.

These, dear children, are not 'spirits' in the sense in which the word is used; in fact, I would go still farther: I say that with these poor mistaken

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ones, they are even less now of the Spirit than when the physical body was worn and desecrated by themselves.

Oh, do not put this idea lightly aside. Remember that the gift of communion is a general gift to all. But in the individual lies the choice, the choice not only of good or evil, but of seeking that which is only half-good or that which is half-evil - which can impersonate the good itself.

We have much to do in regard to this. You see on every side that there are those who are not particular as to their friends, and, even so, that condition of mind is the same when they come here - they are not particular as to their friends, whether they are followers of the Master or not. And so trouble comes and that of which I cannot speak, because it means not only delay but the piling up of forces and of powers which will call from them the most determined effort in order to free themselves in the days to come.

My children, you will gather from this that communion with those in the spirit should be confined to those who indeed, in some measure, represent 'Spirit', and not that which is less advanced than the earthly body which they left behind.

You see, dear children, that in gathering you to my side like a loving and ambitious father, I am anxious for you to have, not the second best, but the best itself. And the only way to obtain the best is by dedication, by the separation of the bodily mind from the physical and material things of the earth; and before you meet us in the spirit in this way, to endeavour - by God's help - to yourselves enter into the silence, that holiness, that laying aside of self, that losing of the very soul - losing it in holiness, in the holiness which is all around.

Oh, my children, could you but see what this free-will gift of yours could create, you would throw everything else aside to offer it up unbroken, complete as is possible while physically bound, knowing that in so lending yourselves to God's work you are bringing to the mind and the body powers and capacities absolutely beyond your comprehension now. Yes, you, my little ones - so doubtful of yourselves, with so many misgivings as to suitability and so on - you, my little ones, have been chosen to demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit working upon earth.

And yet, as you know, all are called to do the same, but very few interpret the call in its right sense, and so they forsake the highest and

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content themselves with the second, the third, and the fourth best. And time and power, and a million things outside your range of thought, are wasted - for the time being - and bring anguish to themselves hereafter.

My children, I am afraid you think that I have been scolding you a little, but not so - not in the sense that you would take it. But in your heart of hearts - those who have worked and striven and struggled to make this communion possible - in the heart of each one is that spiritual ambition to be used by God as God wills - and because of this, I point out once more the way: I tell you that nothing in this respect shall be denied you, but you must lend yourselves in God's way and not in the way of the world.

You cannot run with the hare and hunt with the hounds; you cannot serve two masters, and more especially is this true with the things of the Spirit - it has got to be all - all - and not half, or a quarter, as the case may be. You have got to face the fact, and the time is hastening on when I shall want all the aid from you that I can get. You have got to face the alternative - that having striven so far and suffered so much, only the best is good enough for you. And so you see, dear children, there is no alternative before you. The children of God are the children of God, and what the Father asks, that will they give unhesitatingly, because the spirit within has grown and developed to the extent that it will not let them rest until the surrender is complete.

And so, my children, I lead you on from this thought to another - and that is in regard to those problems of the earth which so fascinate and evade the mind of the body - the 'eternal why', as you say - those interrogations over science, over the construction of the human frame, over the many miracles of nature that are all around. For the solution of these I say, as I have said before, that as you grow ready for power and understanding so shall the illumination come. But to those who prefer to keep their eyes on the ground, rather than raise them to the Light of the Spirit - no answer comes; or if an answer comes, it but bewilders, and sends man once more on that circuitous journey which brings him back, in due course, to his starting point.

My children, I speak plainly tonight, because I am speaking on my own. I tell you that God is willing - nay, is anxious - that His children should understand the Father-Mind and what that Mind has produced in these various forms - but the dedication is not there, and when you touch the things which are Divine, only Divinity can turn the key.

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Yes, and what is more, that Divinity is within - the spirit of man stored here in the body as a precious jewel - by many unknown, uncared for. But the jewel is there, a gift from the All-Knowing, All-Wise, and if you will tread the path in quietness, in sanctity of spirit, endeavouring to shed self, then - then you shall know. But the knowledge will come from within and not from without, as men think.

Only Spirit can contact with Spirit - and the things of the surface are not Spirit at all. It is in the hidden, the buried, the unfound - in all those unknown things which torture the physical mind of man - it is in these the Spirit lies, just as beneath the physical frame is the soul - that which protects the Divinity - that Divinity which is unfathomed and absolutely unexplored, from a spiritual point of view.

And it is to this that I invite you - it is to the higher ranges, not only of thought but of understanding, that I would lead the little children of the Light. And as you climb, mentally and spiritually, so shall the horizon open and the things which are of God be revealed. But the revelation does not come to those whose eyes are upon the earth. Yes, I speak seriously because I am addressing that greater, nobler self within, which does understand, which faints not and is never weary - that courageous, determined, spiritualised self, which is in direct contact with its Maker with nothing in between.

My children, we have worked together through sad days and bright days - through storms and those brief calm periods which you love so well we have worked and suffered together. And so tonight I speak to you as grown men and women - and I include all my children, everywhere, however far away - I speak to you as grown men and women, and I ask you to consider the invitation which I pass on to you from the Master. It is yours to decide. Free-will is never interfered with, but there must be that within which is willing to give, if the heights are to be reached and held.

Turn your thoughts from exhibitions and demonstrations of power upon the material plane; these serve their purpose it is true, but they are not for you. We have no time to linger upon such things. We have to dwell upon that which is the essence and not the outward and the visible; we are called to study the things of the Spirit in its highest sense of holiness and of purity, and have a lot to do - a lot to do in a very short time indeed.

And to old and young, experienced and less experienced, I send out the call: I ask for volunteers. I ask for those who will be willing to leave the

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trivial, the earthly, the seemingly physical attractive - I ask for volunteers to climb the hill with me. And I see - and thank God for it - that the response is sure, that the voices of the valley will grow fainter and fainter, and the sweet Voice of the Spirit more definite, more penetrating as the years go on. I see that the last chain will be snapped asunder, that those ropes of desire will give in the end, and in the place of bondage will be freedom and the capacity to understand.

And in saying this I am offering what no words can portray. I am as an emissary of God, inviting you to take part, not only as a guest, but as your own right as sons and daughters of the Most High; I am inviting you to take your own place in the Heavenly Spheres, which has been prepared for you. And, by God's grace and beneficent power, you shall arise and come.

And now for a little while I leave you. Send out power and sympathy and thoughts of holiness and you shall reap what you have sown...

(Others then spoke...)

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN...

...At last, my dear friends... You must bear with me a little because I have gone through much to get this message through. It is inconceivable to me, and it will be to you, that God should cast aside all those adverse forces and powers and let me speak...

I am a stranger, except by name, and belong to a Church that, in a sense, is alien to your own. The barrier could never be bridged, so I thought, and you think as well; but to show you that God is stronger than all I am sent into your presence tonight to testify to the brotherhood of man, both in the spirit and in the body.

You have much to forgive - in this sense: That we have been the guiltier in blocking the unity between your church and the church I loved so well and tried so hard to serve.

But we have this to learn: That in God's sight, all those intervening barriers of dogma and of belief do not exist, and He says to us all: 'Gather together - yes, together - at the foot of My Throne and as a community raise yourselves to respond to Me'...

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There on the wall (crucifix) is that which represented to me all that life in the physical or in the spiritual might mean. I knelt at the Cross in spirit, and even though my thoughts wandered at times, I knelt there praying for mercy and forgiveness; and the Cross stands for all time to man as safety - but that safety is for all and we knew it not...

I am scarcely able to put my thoughts together this evening - in this way: It seems to me, that in going back on my life, that the Truth was so obvious, the Scriptures so plain... I marvel again and again that I could have held to the division of the goats from the sheep - the division of one church from the other while both sought to serve the same Master. It seems now incredible to me that I could have been so limited - and yet even in this a purpose has been served, because I was sincere.

Now, out of the beneficent mercy of the All-Wise, I can come back and work, can contribute my little quota towards bridging the barriers in between; and each time you can say: 'We are not disunited'. And each time they - the children of the church I once thought represented everything - each time they can be brought to see that love for God is all that matters, that service is the bond of unity between man and man - each time I can be used to bring about this sweet intercourse of ideas - so shall I get nearer to Christ and the Truth He came to teach...

My friends, only because of the width of your sympathy am I here; only because there was not that barrier of opinion, of bigotry in between us, am I able to tell you that tonight, in your presence, is one who worked - and indeed made many mistakes - but worked in the Church of Rome, with never a look behind as to the question of any other sect or belief.

I am here in the spirit, speaking through the body of this girl (Miss Winifred Moyes). I am here to demonstrate the brotherhood of man, that Christ made no division, and that God regards us all as equal in His sight, and joined together in service... It is Vaughan, and I ask you to keep my name in your minds so that I may come again... Forgive me, I am accused of being an orator when in the flesh, and it is difficult in speaking to rid myself of the old habit, but you shall see - as time goes on - the spirit changing, in the desire to be as God would have me be.

In the presence of the Host of the Holy ones of the Spirit, I re-dedicate myself to work for God. I pray that it may be accepted from a contrite heart, for Christ's sake, Amen...

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(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, we have had a happy evening and I think you are all, in your heart of hearts, pledged to God and pledged to the work.

I want you all, as you go your separate ways, to think of this: 'That I, with my weaknesses and my failings' - for as you grow, dear children, these things seem terribly prominent in your mind - 'but even with my weaknesses and my frailties, I can be used for work for God, I have my part to play in the Great Plan for lifting up humanity and setting it forever on that high plateau of Peace, where storms beat in vain!'

Yes, it is a great, grand journey we are on. Some, of course, who thought in the beginning that it would soon be finished, have been disappointed - but it is the thought of the length of that journey which inspires us so. No question of milestones, even of birthdays. Once you pass a certain point, then each step will be met with joy, and even each pang will be counted as treasure as well.

Oh, my children, rouse you - rouse you from your thoughts of the world and what it can offer. Bestir that which is within and make room for the spirit to grow. Remember that however hard, however steep the path may seem, it is simply in imagination only.

You will get this view yourselves as the days go on, you will see that, even as I stated, those deep anguishes of the heart, those torturing thoughts, were imagination - in this sense: That they were built up by the physical mind alone, for all the time the spirit - free and separated from everything that speaks of pain - joys in its God, rejoices in its at-one-ment with the Great Spirit, and draws unto itself the power which is of Him.

Set your house in order; be watchful over the little things, prayerful over the big. And as each night falls, and as each morning's work begins, know that within you is the strength, the courage which will carry you through; that even as an army there are the helpers around you, inspiring and encouraging you to answer to the Voice that calls you on.

Oh, be not distressed if the enemy makes a noisy fusillade - he is not on the gaining side. And although at times it seems to you that the forces of evil can trample the good underneath, yet you shall see - as I have said - that all the while the good was only pushed on one side, and when the evil had exhausted itself, rose up untouched, supreme.

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Therefore, my children, I leave you in contentment, knowing that you will not only hold your flag up, but that the weariness you have experienced sometimes will fall from you and you will go forward rejoicing in the banner that you carry and certain that the Master goes in front.

The blessing of the Spirit of Love rest upon you, and keep you in harmony now and for ever more... Goodnight, my children.



SUFFERING AND THE GREAT CONTROLLING POWER.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 14th September, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O God our Father, our stay in trouble, our Guide through storm and trial, we come to Thee tonight as little children in necessity, asking that Thou wilt bestow upon us that uplifting grace which shall banish the world for this short sacred time when we meet together, and shall link us still more firmly with Thee, our Saviour and our King.

O God, remember not our frailties; grant also that we may forget the pain they leave behind; that we may think thoughts of strength instead, knowing that when Thou commandest, nothing that is of evil can step in - if only the faith is there.

Christ, give us this faith; let us, like little children, take the good gifts that Thou hast offered, without question, without hesitation - certain that what the Father gives belongs to us...

In Thy mighty Heart of Love, there is all understanding, all compassion; and Thou wilt tonight, out of that great Fount of Love, heal us, soothe us, and recharge us with courage to go on.

Thy sacred Name is our watchword, our talisman, our protection: Christ - Christ Who came to earth to bear the burdens of mankind - Christ Who is linked to us through the body which cost so much, and who understands so well the meaning and the power of pain...

O Gracious Spirit, open the doors of the mind so that Thy precious Light may shine in; and where doubt and darkness held chief place, grant that the light of comprehension, of

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spiritual vision, may be there instead and remain for ever more...

In Thy Hands we leave it all. Send down the power and strength to do Thy work this evening, as Thou hast done always in the past...

...My children, although at this moment I cannot call upon the power that I require in order to use my child as I intend later, yet I would reassure you as to this. There is no division or void between us at all - that is impossible - when it is a question of a child and her guide. This dimness, this lack of what you call 'control' will be made good in the shortest time possible, but I must go a little carefully just at first so that the strain will not be too great, in addition to the physical strain which has occurred.

Now, my children, I want you, as always, to think thoughts of love, of wide-open sympathy - and to allow those thoughts of yours to go out on the atmosphere, and in so leaving you to get recharged with all the love and sympathy that is here tonight.

You have had your little disappointments. The day has not turned out, perhaps, as you anticipated. But I am here to announce once more that God's ways are best, and that what has happened was no idle 'chance', but was by the direction of the Most High - entrusted to His servants to be carried out without mishap of any kind.

Yes, dear children, you have been told again and again that the Father uses us in this way in preference to doing the thing direct Himself. He is training us - He is training you, and the only way in which to train and to test anyone is to give them responsibilities. But, mark you, there is a great controlling force in regard to the things of the Spirit, which rises up at the smallest hint of power being misused, however innocently it may be. That is what I want you to try and grasp.

It seems to you all sometimes - and to those who suffer, very often - that plans go awry, that this or that was not thought of - that there had been heedlessness or lack of attention by those who had the work in hand. Upon earth this happens very frequently. The human mind is not always reliable; and when you find a person is unreliable, well, you don't choose them, if you can help it, to carry anything through.

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On our side, dear children, there is not even that half-chance of proving that, at times, we can be depended upon. No, the servants of Christ have been tested and tried again and again; and when it is a question of the care of souls, then only those who love the Master with all their being are allowed to have this governance in their hands. You see, we are deputising for Christ - and it would not be possible to assume that most sacred role if we were not to be trusted in little things as well as in the big.

I tell you this because I long, not only for my own sake but still more so for your sakes, for the trust and the confidence to be there - for you to feel, with never a swerving thought, that: "Those I love and who love me could not, as well as would not, fail me whatever might betide!"

Oh, you must get this conviction in your minds if you are to get on in the way of growth and happiness - for these two things are one. As you grow - which means as the gift of understanding is developed within you - as you grow, so does joy fill your being, so do you realise that between you and the brightness, the harmony, and that sweet companionship of the Spirit, there is no division, no separation of any kind. And as this realisation comes to you, so you can throw off the world - step free - independent of those destructive forces that wound and wound again - step free into your sonship and daughtership with the Most High, and know that where He is, naught can harm you - naught can steal that which is your own.

My children - all of you - have more faith; have more trust in the tender regard of your Father. Say to yourself: 'Yes, this may seem an unwarranted blow; that like a stab in the back - but I know - I know that God is my Father, in the sense that He protects, and that in the by-and-by even that which struck the hardest will be revealed as Love, and the wonderful purpose shown beneath!'

One more word on this subject, and that is on the question of pain, which, as you know, so often strikes those who love God best; and to the outsider again and again the thought comes surging up: 'Why does God not prevent the torture of one who has tried to do their best?'

My children, it is a very serious subject indeed, and I can only entreat you to ponder on it with the spiritual side of your physical mind - which is as near as you can get to the spiritual mind itself - to dwell upon this thought: That those who are out to climb have seen, in spirit, the

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glorious vista in front, and ignoring the complaints of the body, have clasped to themselves that most effective of all weapons - pain - and in this I include the torture of the mind as well.

You see, dear children, that God cannot rob the spirit of anyone of that advantage - that advancement which they long to make their own. But the Father can do this: While the pain is borne, if only you can hold on to the thought of Divine Love, then something, something of the realisation and revelation will come of what that pain is working out.

Oh, cast from your minds that distorted thought that God stands aside and allows the evil to do its worst. Gather in instead this consolation: That Christ who suffered so much Himself, out of Love, dare not tear from the individual soul the treasure that pain can purchase...

We are here in great numbers tonight. All around you are the spiritual forms, not only of those you love but of the countless host who love you so well. And, dear children, you sometimes forget that love on this side does not require, of necessity, love from the object on which it is focussed on the earth plane. You see, it would limit things to a very serious extent if we only loved those who were able to love us. I should feel very lonely indeed if I was restricted in this way.

Love, with us, is such a comprehensive thing - it is not bound by the same rules as when we are in the physical body. Over and over again, you hear of love being 'killed', of love turning to indifference and then to dislike, or, again, of one person loving another with all their heart and the other being rather impatient over the affection so bestowed. Well, my children, I quite understand the earth point of view. It is not easy always to love the majority; in fact, I have heard many of my children exclaim that it is very hard indeed to love those even in their own surroundings. They say: 'It is easy to love those on the Other Side, but very often it is as much as I can do not to detest people here!'... My children sometimes have rather an exaggerated way of speaking - I have noticed it before, and I know you will agree with me on that.

Now, let us see what it is all about, but first of all, dear children, remember this: That we acknowledge that, having spiritual sight, it is quite a different matter for us to love humanity as a whole... I will come back to that a little later.

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With the children of the earth, the chief cause of lack of affection is want of sympathy in the way they look at life - sympathy in opinions - and you would be surprised if you saw how the evil uses this lack of sympathetic understanding to turn what was once regard into positive dislike.

I want you to listen to me as kindly as you can. You see, dear children, I, being in your midst in this way, am privileged to look into your hearts and minds, and the chief thing I notice with all my children is that very often it is the slightest phrase - the most casual remark - which starts the first vibration of antagonism. Now, let us see what happens then. I have said that looking into the hearts and minds of this one and that, I find there is no intent to harm or to cause distress; but words are dangerous weapons. How often is it that, even to yourselves, the conviction comes that you have put into words that which but faintly represents what was in your mind - and you say: 'Oh, I didn't mean it exactly in the way I put it!' but the words have gone out - they have found a lodgement in the mind of another, and the first little bit of damage has been done.

My children, I never fail to recognise that so long as you are in the body, so will these things happen unless - unless you can so fetter yourself to God that the danger will be evaded.

Why I am speaking of this, is to show you - if I can - how it is that people you once liked, you do not care for now. Could you go back, as I can go back, you would find that a careless phrase, a heedless remark in the beginning, was the source of that which now has turned into a mighty stream, so wide that you stand apart.

Now, dear children, you understand why it is so much easier for us to love people who don't love us. We see what has happened - and we see also that it has exacted a far bigger price than it was worth. And so in our love is sympathy - and compassion too - compassion in the sense that we long to soothe and to cover up all those unnecessary wounds, and to assure each one that it wasn't intended and the wound never should have been there.

I said just now that there were many here from the bright spheres. They are pouring down upon you this evening a great volume of love, of brightness, and of happiness. And all they ask from you is this: First, to be allowed to love you - and then for you to recognise their love as personal.

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The moment you can do that instinctively, you will want to give back something from yourselves.

Love, I have found always, is a very humbling thing. It brings with it a sense of unworthiness, a humility that instantly raises in the mind that query: 'I wonder why they love me!' Yes, and more than words can say, does not this apply to that great and overwhelming love which the Saviour bestows upon us all? Doesn't it make us humble to feel that we - who sometimes forget how much we love Him - that we are the recipients of so much love, unasked for, unpetitioned, so much love in its completest form?

Oh, do try and gather this closer - closer to that self within which does understand a little what Divine Love represents. Have you not said to yourselves: 'I wonder how God can love me!' All, all who are His acknowledged children think that - and the answer comes at once: 'Because you are My own!' That, dear children, should tell you a little, it should explain something of that wonderful tie there is between you and the Father - that unbreakable tie; which means that for ever - for all that Eternity which your mind has to leave untouched - that you are bound to Him and, what is more wonderful still, that He - the Great Spirit of Love - is bound to us. Inseverable are the links, and it is our glorious privilege to claim, not only as a gift but as a right - that care, that protection, which is our own.

God, looking down upon His little children, sees them struggling with temptation and their many sadnesses, and if you would but allow it, He could gather all into His Mighty Arms, when grief could touch you no more. But because you cannot always do that, He does not stand aside, but ever and ever again wards off the enemy, and brings into the very surroundings which hurt you most the brightness and the sunshine of His Presence. All will acknowledge that at times, if not always, they feel the warmth of His most blessed Love close unto them, and they marvel that anything could be strong enough to come in between.

Little children on a long journey - that's what you are - and if only you wish to do the right thing, it is not more serious than that. It is only if the influence could be great enough to turn you from the light to darkness, that real evil could come.

As it is, you are little children on a long journey. Sometimes you delay yourselves by stopping for this and for that; it is like plucking the red berries which have danger in their beauty - but we are there, and just

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as the mother would watch her child, so we loosen the fingers and cast the temptation aside. 'Come along', we say, 'there are lovelier things in front' - and in a moment, that which so attracted has passed from the mind in the anticipation of what lies ahead.

Again, sometimes children are rather heedless - they carelessly run on, and in spite of warning, lo, the stone in the path is unseen - and down they go. Of course, we are distressed because they suffer, but a child's wounds soon heal, and taking the lesson to heart, for a little while they are content to walk by our side.

These things happen in the life of all, however great or important the position held by the one concerned - these things occur, and all the superiority about being experienced and 'grown-up' avails nothing. When they come here and see things as they are, they will say that it was even as I said: Like a child on a long journey that grows very tired, that stumbles and falls; but the parent brings that child safe home at last - and that is the only point that counts in the reckoning up. The child is safe home at last in her Father's House, and the Great Father of us all knows how to wipe out sad memories and all those things which we would forget, and in their place gives joy and peace and understanding.

And so, my children, I leave you tonight, hoping that you - on thinking over these simple words - that you will gain comfort, and also comprehension of what physical life really represents, and above all, to make your own the thought of the mighty, overwhelming Love of the Father, who never loses patience with His children, who never wishes He had left them behind. No, the great Father is different from the earthly father in many, many ways; He knows that in time the child will recognise the link between them, when He can do for that child and give to that child all that His Heart longs to - and then the love between them is complete...

(Others then spoke...)

ETHEL MORGAN...

...I haven't been for a long time, but I do hope you are glad to see me. Tonight I have come to speak particularly to Dorrie and to Margaret. I have managed, once or twice, to get a message through which was helpful at the time, and I want to speak to you tonight - only a few words - on the

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wonderful vibrations that thinking thoughts of harmony can build up on this side.

You know, I did tell you before something about the music and the conditions which are in the Spiritual World, in so many different spheres, and I do want you to understand me tonight. I will try and do my best but Winnie is very tired tonight.

Music, which is such a limited thing on earth, is so comprehensive, Margaret, over here. In the soul of each individual there are wonderful forces which, for the want of a better name, I will call peace, harmony and creation... I want you to follow me if you can: When you are able to think on lines of love - which means sympathy and understanding with others - you set up directly a certain set of vibrations, not only in your own soul but in those around you, which creates the music of the spheres - the music which is quite independent of instrument or note, or things like that, as I told you before.

It is very difficult to explain. Dorrie, perhaps you will understand me better on this point. You love music and you know that some people, directly they take an instrument in their hands, can what you call 'harmonise' - that is to say, they can produce without notes (printed copy) something which expresses a thought of beauty.

The great musicians of your world are all controlled by us to a certain extent. Their reveries - those times when the physical mind relinquishes its hold and the spiritual mind takes full possession - in those quiet moments, Dorrie, when there is a big inrush of feeling - in those times they are expressing the essence of the soul, and the music they produce is only the outward and the visible and, really, the least important part.

To all who love music and who are denied the expression of it, who are limited by circumstances or even lack of knowledge - to all these I bring comfort because I can say, in a positive way, that the sweetest music, the grandest chords of all, are never played upon an instrument - they are born in the soul.

And each time you can send out a thought of love, you are creating something that will last, and not, as with music on earth, cease to be when the piano is closed or the instrument is laid aside... When a thought of love goes out from you towards humanity, in your soul is set into action the

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forces of peace, harmony and creation, and this 'materialisation' of power sets into permanency the thought so sent forth. I wish it were possible to give you some faint conception of the permanent beauty you are creating by thoughts of this kind...

Dorrie, it seems to you that you labour against overwhelming odds with the writing (the writing down of the messages, as spoken) and because, in your mind, there may be distress instead of harmony, you imagine that that is on the loss side. But I am here tonight to say - and I am told by our great leader to say it - that away and beyond the most beautiful composition which could ever issue from the mind of a musician - away and beyond that, is the beauty of effort, effort to do the best you can.

You will remember, Mrs Moyes, that once before you were told that the most beautiful flower was colourless in comparison with the beauty of effort. I am told to remind you all of this. Sometimes effort brings to the person concerned a sense of stress and strain, even of failure - failure to keep the mind on that high level which they desire, because the effort takes too much out of them, physically, to make it possible.

Well, in regard to that sense of failure, which those who do try know so well, I am told to say, to reassure you, that effort - and the effort that exacts the biggest price, of course, counts for the most - that all this is creating music in a spiritual sense, it is creating those vibrations which, hereafter, you will find have been absorbed on our side, and now mingle with the melody of the Spirit in the Bright Realms.

Nothing has been forgotten in the Home provided for you. Here is a perfection of sound, of sight, and of hearing - which no words of mine can convey... And I want you all - especially those who do try and are so conscious of failure - I want those especially to remember that by their efforts now, they are creating that which is Eternal. And if you can, before you come here, send out those thoughts of love towards others, then, as I have said, the three-fold gift is yours, and you in the days to come, will be amazed that so simple a thing was overlooked and unheeded by many... Simple, for even a child can, by its thoughts of love towards its mother or father, set into action these great powers...

I am sorry I have not done better, but I think on reading it, it will be plainer, and, anyhow, I will do my best to get the meaning through to your minds... Goodnight...

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(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...My children, if you only could see things as they are you would know that tonight we have done wonders. Now I use that word with due reserve, but you must remember that I see things as they are and not as they appear, and I say tonight that, with the conditions - more particularly in regard to my child - we have done wonders, and the peace shall lay upon you all throughout the week, if only you will allow it.

And now for my closing words - they are these, I have used them before but they are very opportune tonight: 'At eventide there shall be Light', and I want you all to take this as referring directly to your own lives. It is true indeed that as you pass through the various experiences of life, age, so far as years are concerned, matters very little - the age of the soul rests entirely on the experiences which it has been through. Some when quite young in years, are as old as those who have reached the allotted span of physical life. To you all then, I say: 'At eventide there shall be Light', and I want you to take from this, not only a prophecy, but a promise that will be worked out in minute detail, if only you will do your part.

Remember this: That for the most part, you have worked through the hot noon-day of sorrowful experience, and as the twilight sets in, a sense of peace and of rest should be there as well. But in your world the twilight is followed by the night, and to you the very word brings about a sense of captivity, so I want you this evening to translate it in this way: 'At eventide there shall be Light' - that instead of the night closing in with its crippling restrictions, the Light of the Spirit will shine in upon you all, illuminating the way, making all things clear, and turning age - as you call age - into the realisation of the meaning of life itself, when you shall find that the years shall fall from you and the perpetual youth of the Spirit be your own.

Have I not promised, dear children, joy, brightness, peace and harmony shall be yours - and unity as well, because, though not understanding, you kept on and you tried to do your best. And because the way has been long and dreary and beset by perils, I say, in God's Name, that: 'At eventide it shall be Light' - and in that one word is expressed all the joy, the revelation, and the recognition of the Divinity within.

Rest you then content. Keep a watchful guard over your thoughts, and remember this: That to those who have faith much shall be given. But

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you have got to do your part, and only by the showing of faith can you have those good gifts of the Spirit, which shall turn faith into sight, and hope into certainty - for ever and for ever...

I bless you in the Name of the Father, of the Son, and the Holy Spirit - bless you with His peace and His love, as He directs me tonight and always. Amen.



WHAT IS MAN THAT THOU ART MINDFUL OF HIM?

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 21st September, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Love Divine, we meet at Thy Feet tonight in thankfulness, in trustfulness, certain that where Thou art all is wonderfully well.

O Saviour, grant that the revelation of the Spirit may so sink into the physical mind that doubt for ever will be cast aside. Grant that Thy little children may feel the Light as well as talk about it; that they may see it with that greater, nobler self within - see it and make it their own - when chill and hopelessness will be no more...

Father, Thy Love is like a sun shining down when the day is dark. Grant that we may indeed raise our eyes to that which is of Thee - given out as a free gift to all. Grant that we may be able to approach to something of Thy Holiness, something of Thy Purity and something of Thy Love; that we may be bound more closely to the things of the Spirit, and that the world, with its snares and its deceptions, may cease to attract us ever again...

Into Thy Hands once more we leave everything - our sorrows, the weakness of the body and, more especially, those disappointments over self - leave it all in Thy Hands, knowing that Thou wilt make good that which was faulty, because the wish was there to do better than we did.

Father, with grateful hearts we thank Thee that always Thou art within reach, that close beside Thee nothing can hurt or harm us anymore... Father, we thank Thee...

What is Man That Thou Art Mindful of Him?

...My very dear children, we meet together tonight with joy. Yes, I am sure that you feel it is an occasion for rejoicing that we, who are all so linked together in Christ, that we meet together to listen to the Voice of the Spirit as it comes through the servants of the Most High - listen to the directions, to the comfortings, and to the call to go on.

Tonight then, without more ado, we will take it for granted that Love is in command here, that God has passed His blessing upon us, and that those you love and who love you so extraordinarily well - that all are here, and the conditions as to peace and unity are complete. Just rest you then, my children, in this thought: That on either side you are closed in by love; and that love is but a faint reflection of the great and mighty Love which is showered on this sad old world of yours, and which never shall be taken away so long as it may last.

You see, dear children, we are talking of a big thing; we are not speaking of that which you associate with the trivial round of everyday life - the things you can see and touch and possess. No, we are talking of that much bigger, greater thing altogether - the need of humanity, the need of humanity for help, for understanding and, above all, for courage to rise.

Tonight then, my little ones, I want to direct your thoughts right away from what you call the earth, and for you to try, as much as you are able, to fix your minds on those great uncountable splendours of the Spirit. I want you to try and grasp something of the stupendous Plan - to get away from the personal, from the purely individual, and to send your thoughts out over the vast expanse of humanity which has passed and had its day upon this little planet, and also to those who at present are treading the path of experience and finding it none too easy without the Saviour's guidance...

Often at night-time in the quietness, you have raised your eyes to the stars - those little symbols of God's love which reassure you in rather a pretty way that your world is not alone... In those quiet moments, if you are receptive, we can open the doors of the physical mind a little, and then within you you feel this: The mightiness, the grandeur of the Mind of God. Yes, it is impossible to look at what you call the 'heavens', with its million beacons of light, and to remain unmoved, if you have any imagination at all.

And then on another occasion the doors of the physical mind are forced open - just a little when you gaze at an open stretch of sea, or, if

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may be, at those seemingly never-ending downs which some of you know so well, then the thought comes as to the bigness of nature and also to the littleness of the individual soul. That is the effect that these huge outlines have upon a restricted mind.

But I have come tonight to direct your thoughts in another direction - so far as the effect these scenes have upon you. I have come to say that mighty though the creation of nature may be, stupendous although the spheres of the Spirit are as well, yet, in God's sight, dear children, you and I and all those countless millions who are thrown off from Him and bear the sign of His Godhead within - that you and I, dear children, are of far more importance than that which calls out your admiration.

In the days of old there was one who asked: 'What is man that Thou art mindful of him?' (Psa. 8:4; Heb. 2:6)' And tonight I answer that question in as comprehensive a way as my children can take in at this stage. I have come - in God's Name - to tell you, without any qualification whatever, that in the sight of the Father the individual soul stands pre-eminent over everything else - and all the other things that you could think of, are simply created as a background, if I may use the expression, for the evolving soul of man.

You see, dear children, that taking the spiritual view of things, the responsibility of each one is very great indeed - great because of this: That all those forces in the atmosphere, all those marvels of nature - hidden or discovered, all the glorious homes which have been prepared for you in the Land where sorrow is unknown, all these things - the sun, the moon and the stars, the great waters and the flowers that so decorate your world if they are allowed - all these things, dear children, were created by the Loving Father as gifts for the bringing on, and the bringing out of, that which is in man.

It is a stupendous thought. It makes one pause, in this sense: That the realisation comes that life, whether here or in any other state, is not a thing to be got through and forgotten as quickly as may be; it is not a thing that is to be taken in the easiest way possible; nor is it given to you to despise or to maltreat. Each day works out its part of the pattern, each night sees the weaving in. And more than that - hourly, aye, minutely, is the spirit demanding of the personal self an account for this and for that...

I want you, my children, not to be depressed by the picture I have drawn. It should indeed have the opposite effect - it should encourage you,

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it should say to your physical mind: 'Ah, at last I know what it is all about, and sorrow can wound me no more!'

You, and all humanity, have to be gathered in, and each one is responsible for his or her bit of the pattern. And remember this: That until that little part of the pattern is worked out to the best of their ability, so they are sent back - or rather, they send themselves back - to, as it were, pick out the stitches and start again. You see, you are not dealing with one who says: 'That will do!' No, within you all is that dominant, courageous, all-seeing, all-wise spark of God - and only the best is good enough for that.

My children, I want you to read between the lines. If on earth you heard of a father who thought so much about his children, who had created so many attractions and diversions and exercises for their minds in order that they might never be dull and never seek another companion - if such an illustration were possible you would say at once: 'What a wonderful thing to have a father's love like that!' Don't you see that, with you all this is applicable exactly? That you - all of you, and I myself - are in that most happy position of having a Father who thinks that nothing could be too beautiful, too wonderful for His children...

Yes, I think it does alter things a little, and I want you to look at life - the daily round - more in this way. Ah, I know it is trying, I know that the physical body can be very tiresome indeed - but that is only one of the gifts bestowed by the Father. Surely with so much spread out around you, you can sense it even if you cannot see it? But surely with so much in your world and in the Realms of the Spirit, you can turn your attention from the one gift which, it seems to you, is very much in the nature of a 'white elephant' or worse. Of course, when you come here, you will see that the physical body - with its limitations and its capacity for suffering - was a precious gift indeed, and has worked out something which nothing else could do... (words missed through faintness of medium)...

Just a little interruption, but my child and I have fought through a great deal - many enemies seen and unseen - and by God's grace we have conquered in the end...

My children, I want you to be certain that God's way of answering those words: 'What is man?' is simplicity itself. He says: 'Man not only belongs to Me, but is of Me, and in time to come shall be so linked to Me again, that we shall be as One!'... (interruption through faintness of medium)...

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I thank you all for your patience and your help. Never fear, the Spirit is stronger than all, and you shall see that into the hands of Zodiac power of an amazing nature has been given. I cannot, as you know, work against nature's laws, but when my child is 'controlled' by me in this way, then, as a gift direct from God, I can bid the enemy retreat...

There is a little simile in this for you all to take to heart, and that is how God looks after everything in spite of the fact that you sometimes feel He has forgotten your very existence. Take today as an illustration. My child found that all had been thought out; that the Father does not allow the evil forces to strain endurance beyond a certain point, and we, acting under His direction, had arranged everything - but it was necessary that the effort should have been made...

Don't you see, my little ones, that this applies to everything in life? You have to do your part; you have not to give up - no, at a certain point here and there the Father's love is shown. You just do your little bit, and then, without worry, without misgiving, say to your self - and mean it too: 'God is looking after me and He has thought of everything to carry me through'. Yes, in daily life, with those who seek to serve the Master, this is worked out again and again.

Each of you, at times, have been brought up against such adverse forces that you have felt with all your being: 'I can't go on!' But in quietness, and with faith, do not take the initiative yourself - be certain that God has it all worked out, and that when you feel you can do no more, then Love will lift you out of it and put you upon that safe, high hill where evil cannot touch you...

I speak to Agnes as well as to my child, because she too is in it; I speak to her and I say that whatever may happen in her life, either in a physical way or in regard to those spiritual tests which are very hard to grapple with, I say: Take it to Christ and leave it there. Be certain that the Father, being your Father, will not forsake His child when she tries so hard to do His will.

To all of you I send out a message - a wide message of love. I say that whatever the need of anyone in the world, with those who wish to do the right thing, all has been overlooked by the Father; it has been overseen that nothing shall go wrong - and all He asks of you is to go on without

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fear and with perfect confidence that not only in front, but keeping step with you on either side, are the messengers of God.

Faith, dear children, is a wonderful thing, especially when you get it in one who says sometimes that she feels she has no faith at all.

That, too, is an illustration of how you misunderstand yourselves, and, of course, each other. I can understand how it is that you don't always understand each other because the physical mind makes very big barriers indeed, but I say that when you come here you will see still more plainly how little you understood yourselves - how little you understood the spirit which was animating your actions, which was responsible for your experiences, and which knew God and loved Him as much as was possible with the development you had reached.

And now, my children, I am going to leave you for a little while, but I shall not be very far away. And I want you to take everything that happens in that spiritual way which I have been speaking about tonight - to remember that nothing has been overlooked by the Father and that we are attempting, by His Grace, that which has never been attempted before. No one has ever used a medium - an instrument - under these conditions. But I want, if I can, to work through...

(Note: Owing to the faintness of the medium, the meeting had to be closed.)

(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Zodiac has come back. I have been asked by those on our side not to press things any further. Don't think you have lost this evening, my children; choose a day in the week when we can meet together, and then I can promise you that instead of having lost, you will have gained by the waiting.

The fight has been well fought, and I want my child to have no misgiving about that. Well fought - and she shall reap what she has sown.

I leave all the love with you, and your dear ones are gathered round you in a way you little understand. They ask me to say that it was their wish that the evening was abandoned, because they understand so well.

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Goodnight, my little ones. Be quite sure that all, all is well, and that God's Love never fails - never, whatever may happen. You are going to see His Love translated into a joy and brightness far beyond your imagination - and you will say, far beyond your deserts as well... Goodnight.

The meeting was continued on the
following Tuesday evening, 23rd
September

(Zodiac continued...)

O Father and Mother God, we thank Thee for this great privilege of carrying on Thy work, thank Thee that always Thou art more ready to give than we are to receive, thank Thee that Thy blessing is over this little family and those they love, thank Thee that we can see the linking up of many, and the strengthening of the ties between the spiritual and physical worlds...

Give us this day our daily bread, as we have petitioned, and grant that it may so feed the soul that new strength and understanding may be ours; and thus fortified to meet the battles of life, we may go forward as valiant soldiers of Christ, rejoicing that we have been called to follow such a Leader into the Land of Promise, into the realms of right desire.

Thy Peace is on us; grant that we may forget the busy day and may rest in Thee for this short time that we meet together... Amen...

...My children, if you could but grasp it, you would realise that tonight is a very holy occasion - holy, because in God's sight, you are trying to make good that which remained unfinished; holy even to your comprehension because of the bountiful grace supplied so readily by the Giver of all.

Oh, cast from your minds every thought that is not of Him, bid weariness depart, bid those pains of the body retreat - because the Holy Presence of the Master is here, and at this moment He is laying upon each heart and mind that balm, that perfect balm of Love, which only He has the power to bestow. Just as you would fit yourselves to meet the Master in the Realms of the Spirit, so attune yourselves tonight to listen, and to

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make your own, that which He bids us pass on, with His blessing and His most holy peace.

Far away, out in the night, the busy life goes on. There the world seems very close, but I would say to you, dear children, that, even so, the Father recognises all these as His children. But, as you have been told before, some are chosen for the better part, and so tonight thank Him again and again that you have been chosen for this better part; that you have heard the Voice of the Spirit - that quiet, sweet Voice, which ever must be listened for, if it is to be heard - that you have heard the Voice of Love, and have dedicated yourselves to His service, which indeed is that of serving humanity at large.

Oh, be not deceived if here and there one falls out; be not discouraged if those you think should do the most seem to make excuses. All has been thought of, no link is missing; and you shall see, if only you go forward with faith and with patience, you shall see that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand - is at hand - because the individual soul has responded to God's Voice, and instantly you do know that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. You have only to make one step forward to grasp it - when the kingdom of earth, with its pain, its sorrows, its disillusionments, passes away from the heart and mind - you hold the Kingdom of Heaven...

My children, I love to talk to you in this way; I love to gather up your thoughts and knit them to the things which are of God; I long still more to bind you to that strong anchor which never gives, and in time to come I see that each one is fettered safe and sound, willingly, to the anchor of faith and trust in God.

Tonight, my children, I must not stay, because, as you know, your dear ones wish to speak to you direct. I ask you, as always, to give out of yourselves that which is exclusively your own - thoughts of love and dedication, straight from the human heart - which is able to build bridges of which, as yet, you know nothing, but which you shall see, in God's good time, are intact and complete, and the way will lie open for ever more...

(Others then spoke...)

(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...My children, the conditions are so wonderfully fine tonight, that we could go on for hours. I refrain because the time is all too short to get

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the records written out, and we have to be business-like over these things, as well as you have over the affairs of daily life.

I want you all to know that you have done well this evening - done well; and I think there are very few words which, to those who want to love the Saviour, ring out so sweetly and are so wonderfully comforting as those: 'You have done well'.

Yesterday and tomorrow and today - all are weaved in now and for ever. And I want you, in continuing in the path laid down, to keep this ever before you: That yesterday, today and tomorrow - this week, next week and the years to come - all are bound together and make a complete whole to construct that which God thinks you are suitable to put together.

When you regard life like this - the daily task, those many unpleasant duties, the tired bodies, the fighting against seemingly unequal odds - all these things are hallowed and made sacred - because you are working at the task given you - with so much loving attention, by your all-Wise, all-Seeing, Heavenly Father, who knows just what is best for each one, just those things which are necessary to bring out the gold from the earth, just that refining process of the thinking mind of the body which shall fit it for the thoughts of the spirit, and make it possible, when your time comes to lay aside the garment of the body - which has served you very well - make it possible that you shall feel no strangeness, no isolation from the things which are of God.

Let your whole soul then rise free from the sadness which would keep you back, let your spirit have room to grow, and as you go forward in faith, in the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God, so shall the vista open and the vision be your own, and you shall know that God not only says: 'Blessed are the pure in Heart', but that He pours down upon those the blessing to pass on to others, and that blessing, growing in strength and in volume, shall do good work throughout the trend of time.

Yes, dear children, it is of things beyond the human ken that I speak, but you have been prepared by sorrow - ah, yes, by the withholding of that which your heart longed for most, we know all about that - but you shall see and realise in its completeness, that by the very pangs you bore and those things you did without, you have brought into your possession the soul's desire, when the desire of the heart seems trivial in comparison.

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Oh, the peace and the joy and the unity of being in touch with Christ - that wonderful cloak of Love, once thrown around you, you can withstand all wind and storm, and when you come here you shall see that the robes of the spirit were, for the most part, worn during the earth stages as well.

And so God's will is being done, and you, as instruments, are in His sight far more precious than you can understand - but that too will be made good in the happy days to come.

God's peace and love gather you in, satisfy your thoughts, enrich your lives, and keep you close unto Him for ever more... Amen.



STEWARDSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF THE KING OF KINGS.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 28th September, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Saviour, again to Thy dear Name we link ourselves. We ask Thee to pour down upon us all the blessing of peace, of comfort and that inward joy which is of the Spirit; which banishes from our minds all thoughts of the world, of the weakness of the body, and of the disappointments with which sometimes we associate daily life.

Grant that we, gathering together in faith, may indeed find within ourselves that faith as a stronghold so great that the enemy is cast aside. Grant, O Father, that Thy children may in this feel as children no more, but as strong soldiers determined to fight and to conquer until the end, which is the beginning of perfect life.

Almighty God, powerful as Thou art, we know that Thou only wishes us to retain the thought of Thy Love, Thy perfect Love and understanding of the frailties of human nature. And so tonight, as always, we leave everything in Thy Hands and add one more link to the chain, this most spiritual chain which links up the seen with the unseen, the physical with the spiritual, and the material with that which is of holiness itself...

Sacred in Thy sight are those who worship Thee, sacred indeed are they who wish to serve Thee, and so, gathering all into Thy mighty Arms, we know we are safe, and more than that - are so linked to Thee that all must be wonderfully well...

...Good evening, my children, and again I say we meet with joy - yes, with joy and with understanding. And I want you tonight to come just another inch on the way, you know, on that long, long journey of experience which the soul has set out so valiantly to cover for love of God. I

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want you tonight then to lift your minds - not only above the world but above the personal, and that is a hard task indeed. Why I ask it is this:

You have been told before that if you focus your attention on the one Great Light, which is Love, all else is included in that. If you think of your near ones, those dear ones who have gone on before, although your thoughts bring them instantly to your side, they cannot get the same power as when you try to disentangle yourself from self and to fix your heart's desire on finding God.

Finding God! Oh, if only humanity could realise for one instant the possession, the power, and the sacred opportunities held out by trying to find God. In your daily life, with its many distractions, again and again your thoughts seek to free themselves and to contact with that which is of the Spirit. Yes, and you do so more effectively than you can grasp, but still more - still more do I emphasise the need, the desperate need - for mankind, as a whole, to lay self at the Feet of the Saviour and to give itself wholly into His sacred care.

My children, I speak not of what is impossible, but I speak of that which is hard to accomplish while still in the physical body. I tell you quite frankly that only the courageous, the determined, and the pure, can reach this high ideal and hold it in spite of the opposing forces. Yet to you this evening - and I make no exception in regard to any of my children - I urge you to take a definite step, to make a stand for the God that is within you. I entreat you not only for your sakes now, but far more for those aeons of time which lie in front.

I entreat you to get free from the bonds of the material world, free from its thought, if you will, because how seldom does God come into that thought, free from its distractions - those most destructive distractions, which are for ever telling you, or if not you then the vast majority - which are for ever telling you there is not time, business presses, the duties of the day, aye, even the duties to 'the dead' come first...

I am putting it as the world puts it in thought. There are those who are ready to respond to the Call but are confused by the signpost of duty; sometimes it seems to them like this: That one hand points to God and the other, by the fraction of an inch, points to duty only. Well, you know the spiritual ruling on this; you know if you follow the hand which points to God alone you will find, before you have gone very far, that duty walked beside you all the way.

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Oh, if it were in my power tonight, I would draw back the curtain of the future just for one second and show you what effort, what dedication, what concentration, can bring into being - would show you for your comfort what stress and strain and overwork, and the disappointing thoughts that follow - would show you that all these are as the bricks in that wonderful foundation on which we shall call to the world.

My dear, dear children, listen and try and take in tonight something of the responsibility - yes, and more than that - something of the sacredness of the Call that has come to you. Argue it out in your minds like this, and be certain that the Father's promises never fail:

On the one side are those multitude of obstacles in the form of distractions, the little unforeseen calls upon time, upon your attention, and upon that active side of your thinking mind. That is the one side, and to the majority it seems as though duty and a thousand things of a spiritual character lie on that side of physical life.

On the other, what is it? The quiet call of the Spirit - and nothing more.

You see how it is that man gets confused - because the weight is so much greater on the earth's side, apparently, than on the spiritual. And yet, tonight, I say once more, that in comparison of importance, of construction, of all that creation of beauty and of power - the quiet call of the Spirit is away and beyond all the world's side.

It is, as it were, a single golden coin against a mass of coppers. To those who did not know, on seeing the two, they would instantly think that by taking the pile they were enriching themselves far, far more than by possessing the tiny coin... It is a crude illustration but it is difficult to talk in the earth language of that which means so much, and so I ask you to search your own minds and to find other similes which will fit in. There on the earth side - I deny it not - you get the bulk, you get what seems to your physical mind overwhelmingly important and tangible and real.

And on the other just faith - faith in yourself that you have heard the Voice of God.

You see, I am trying to get you on; I am trying to shorten the road of material experience. And why? Because I long for you to enter into the

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shining path of spiritual experience. And then, dear children, on looking back - if you ever have an inclination to look back - you will smile at the gifts of the world, those treasures of the earth, and you will see that moth and rust had corrupted them indeed.

Yes, to those who once have heard the Call of the Spirit, their treasure is in Heaven - and Heaven in this case means in the Heart of the Father. Their treasure is there, and that is why until the unity is complete on your side peace evades you, and unrest - that unrest which frets the nerves and builds up imaginary horrors or ugliness of other kinds in your minds - that unrest will torture you because you belong to God.

My children, of old you heard a lot about stewardship and the duties that go with that trusted position in the King's household. Well, tonight I would like you to think just for a minute or two on your stewardship in the house of the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Perhaps some of you have not looked at it in this way. It has seemed to you that you are not of sufficient importance, that rather the Father's Love is extended to you as a child who doesn't yet know very much of the Father's will. Those in prominent positions, who are the avowed servants of God, they are the stewards in the household of the King - so you would think. But I wish to enlarge your minds on this as on many other things. I say to you all that whether you recognise it or not, whether you seek that position of honour or not, you are stewards in the household of the King.

I want you not to confuse the remarks I have made about the duties of earth, and so I lead you on to the discussion of your stewardship and how God has put you in the position in which you find yourselves today. You know, dear children, that there are some who love God dearly, who have an idea that by devoting themselves entirely to the contemplation of His Love and the study of the Sacred Word they are following as closely as possible the rules laid down for stewards. Sometimes it so happens that that is part of their little bit of the pattern - but I am speaking tonight to those in the busy world, to those who have to work, and, perhaps, provide a livelihood for others; I am speaking to the toilers, to those who think they are fettered hand and foot to the work of the world - and for these, as for you all, I have a message of comfort. I tell them that each one in their separate niche, whether they think it fits them or not, they are at one and the same time stewards in the household of the King.

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Then I would turn to the home-folk, to those who it seems to them are just the 'hacks' of daily life, doing the jobs which the luckier ones have escaped.

Oh, my children, there are countless thousands today who mourn their lack of opportunity, who feel their talents are wasted or that they have never had a chance of developing them. These we feel very kindly towards because, you know, in the home there does not seem much chance of proving that within them is that creative force that can build something which will last for ever. Oh no, they would tell you at once, the work produces nothing but irritation - it is the same thing day in and day out! To them I say, as to the outstanding figures in the world - perhaps I say it more to them - that they are stewards in the household of the King.

Could you but see the working of the spiritual life underneath the physical, you would know that not one of the simplest tasks well done does not produce beauty of a permanent kind - and because the task was not exactly a congenial one, then if it is done willingly and to the best of their ability, the beauty is greater and grander still.

Get down from the heights of physical thinking and start to climb the ladder of spiritual thought. See in your daily lives the opportunity, not of startling the world - for the world forgets you tomorrow - but of creating something which will stand for all time, something which will make others say: 'There goes a good steward!'

Comprehensive as the spheres may be, stupendous as the marvels to be unrolled before your wondering eyes, I say that only are these things there by the quietly sustained effort of those doing their daily tasks - the monotony of life transformed into the radiance of the Spirit by God.

Yes, you see now that life, the trivial round, is a bigger thing than you thought; and I want you to bear in mind always that by doing your task as well as you can, you are also seeking God - seeking God and finding Him too if the heart is kept right with Him.

There is no confusion in the two ideas. I have told you to focus your attention on the Great Spirit. I say that in your domestic life, it may be, or in the slightly wider area of the office, still focus your mind on God - because, if you do that, you are bound to work well. The spirit within knows no second best, it only knows that which represents completeness - completeness, the finished task done to the best of your ability. And what

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in the end seems to you faulty, well, your Father finishes what you would you had had the power to do yourselves...

Work and effort and strain, these are the bricks of that foundation on which we can stand and call to the world. See to it that your bricks are in their right places; see to it too that in placing your own, you do not disturb those of another; see to it that the harmony between you all is complete in the wish to build for God. And if the wish is there, you shall find, in such a wonderful way, that you have builded better than you knew.

But watch the outposts of your life; watch and be on your guard against those most subtle forces out to hinder the Spirit - sadness and depression. These, dear children, very often are the last of that great army you have fought and conquered. They come when you are feeling over weary with the strain. They come at the end of a long day. They come when the body is weakest and frailest. They are indeed, to many, the hardest of all to overcome and to banish.

And so tonight I say: Be on your guard and watchful of the outposts, and when the first sign or first hint of their presence is felt, say to yourself: 'I belong to joy - the joy which is of God!'

Sadness, dear children, is hallowed in one sense - because of what it has produced, what it has worked out in the physical mind of man. But once its work is done - and it was only a test sent to prove whether you were strong enough to emerge from it into joy - once its work is done, you belong to it no more.

You belong to that perfect happiness, that perfect harmony, which is ours on this side, and is in the possession of those you love, who have stepped out of the physical body in order to come into their own place in the Kingdom of the Lord. They too are wedded to joy, and their work now amongst you is to link you to joy as well. Therefore, sadness and depression and loneliness are not of them - they are of the shadows only, from which your loved ones call to you to step forward into the light of understanding - into the revelation of the Love of God.

See to it then, that you put on your strongest armour to fight the enemies that would approach. And if you call upon the Saviour and upon those you love, who are also of joy itself, so shall you find that happiness in its most beautiful form - contentment - shall enter and remain a guest

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until that contentment is turned into something stronger still, when between you and your loved ones the unity will be complete.

One word more: Remember, dear children, that when you think a sad thought, you are adding to the sorrow of the world. When you think a glad thought, then instantly you are giving us extra power over here. When you think a brave thought then, unconsciously to themselves, the weak ones square their shoulders. When you think a holy thought, then the Spirit of God within men rises and dominates that which is of the earth...

It is cause and effect right through. You can build or you can destroy. You can add a link, or you can break one that already has been put together by much effort. You can lift another up, or you can push them one pace further down. You can be an instrument of God, or you can - unwillingly though it may be - you can be used by the shadows to strike that which is Love Itself...

And so joy hides its head until you recognise that you belong to light and not to darkness, to freedom and not to captivity, to peace and not to strife, to gladness and not to sorrow...

And now I leave you...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...And now, my children, we are going to close. My little secretary has had quite enough to do; and my child during the week will find also that she will have quite enough to do to give you a faithful representation of this evening. You see the question of 'stewardship' comes again. Each one of you has your own particular work to do, and, for your own sakes, see that each life is kept as intact as possible.

You know, it is like a big school - you say to one: 'That is your little bit', to another: 'That is yours'. There is always the lazy child, and there is always the one who will work; and, again, the one who can be very busy when the mood takes her, and the one who thinks tomorrow will do just as well. Children in a school - only in regard to life, it is a bigger and more important thing altogether.

I just mention this because you sometimes wonder that an extra burden seems to be put on one who doesn't appear to have sufficient

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strength to carry it. Dorrie feels like that sometimes, both with her work and with the messages (note-taking) - but I say, in God's Name, that she will find the strength to carry her through.

To those who suffer, I say also that they shall find the strength of the Spirit to carry them through.

But remember, all of you, that you are chosen stewards in the household of the King, and because that post of honour is yours, then not only will the King see to it that you have the tools with which to work, but also that the strength will be forthcoming to make that which appears so difficult, possible to accomplish.

You are tired and I must not keep you any longer, but I do want you, if you can, to remember that in work of this kind - more especially in regard to the spreading of a new truth that has got to be hammered in - that in a case like this, the power which is of God is given into your possession in a way so stupendously greater than would be possible for you to imagine.

My children all, my children, in God's Name I ask you not only to continue in faith, but to be steadfast in hope; and, day by day, in reviewing what has happened and what has been done - so far as you are able - to be certain that it is gathered in as grain in the store to be used as food later on...

You cannot grasp these subtler truths, you cannot realise that the tasks of today are just those which are needed to produce the power of tomorrow; but I do wish you could sufficiently distract yourselves from the personal to know within yourselves, that, from the spiritual point of view, you are producing - by your daily effort, by the wish to be steady and to be true - you are producing that spiritual food which, in time to come, shall be used to feed the multitude so that they may not go hungry.

I cannot go into this particular phase because it would be revealing too much, and so I ask you to go forward in hope - in hope and joyful anticipation that the grey days indeed will be turned to those of sunshiny blue - and in that time you will look back and marvel what in ignorance you did, and how God has turned that ignorance into illumination and understanding of the things which are of Him.

Stewardship in the House of The King of Kings

Christ in your hearts, hope to lead you on, faith as the strong staff, love as the motive power - these things are yours, and one day you will be enabled to use them as they are meant to be used, without any restrictions at all.

God bless you and keep you in the brightness of His Face, and give you your soul's desire, which is unity with Him for ever and for ever.

Goodnight, my children.



PURIFICATION.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 5th October, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Holy Spirit of Divine Love, we thank Thee, as Thy little children, that Thou hast so extended Thy Gracious care that we meet together tonight in peace and harmony and in the happiness of the Spirit - even though that may be veiled to some at this moment.

Father, we thank Thee for all Thy good gifts, for the wish to rise, for the determination to keep on, for the desire to be as Thou wouldst have us be. We thank Thee that ever and ever again, in spite of the world and the call of its many attractions, that we are able to extricate ourselves from them, and to fix our attention on finding Thee...

O God, knowing our weakness, our frailty, knowing that we wish we could rise above the physical self, help Thou Thy children tonight. Grant that indeed they may feel free for this short time when we meet together - that they may be free to enter into the gladness and the holiness of Thy Presence and in the Presence of the Master - Who having been man Himself, understands in detail the bondage of the body. In the Presence of Thee, O God, our Christ and our Redeemer, we are cleansed and made pure once more...

...My children, this evening there is a real blessing resting upon you all, and I want you to be able to take full advantage of it and to make it your own possession as completely as possible. Therefore, let yourselves rest in the thought of unity with the Divine. Put aside all cares, all worries, all misgivings of the future - and rest in the thought that you are as children gathered into the enveloping folds of Divine Love, and there you can remain, serene and confident that nothing can separate you from that which is your own.

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My children, in quietness, in contemplation of the things of the Spirit, we can go on. We do not want to be distracted by the more showy kinds of the demonstration of spiritual power. We do not intend that the music of the earth shall interfere with hearing the music of the spheres. We have no time to dally over this theory or that - to explore one channel which seems to lead into the Light and then, finding ourselves blocked, to return to seek another... No, we have our path laid down before us in distinct outline with no confusion of signs.

In quietness, in contemplation of the things of God, we are going to purchase that spiritual wisdom which the world cannot give, nor the realms outside the earth. You have been told again and again that the call to rise and to hasten your steps has come to you. Some of you have queried with great seriousness your suitability, your capacity, even perhaps your wish to answer the call, which, even to your blinded eyes, shows a steep and a long hill to climb.

These things, dear children - the thoughts that pass through your minds - they are part of the campaign, part of the equipment, and will provide the necessary tools which later on will be needed to surmount a difficult spot.

From the beginning I have never deceived you. I told you all that the hill was long and steep, that the enemies were manifold, and that you would grow weary by the way. But I told you too that the protection would be complete, that the Messengers of God would keep step with you, and that the greatest precipices of spiritual downfall should be crossed on the bridges already provided by what you call 'the past'.

You see, dear children, that although your hearts may fail you, that although the sense of loneliness comes again and again, although even fear itself makes you pause, and the voices of the valley sound deceptively sweet to your tired minds - in spite of this you go on because the call has come. I want you all, from the youngest to the oldest of my children, to take comfort in the thought that everything that will happen - or could happen - has been foreseen by us; and even at this early date are the barriers of protection firm, immovable and complete.

You should know - for you have been told very often - that the weariness you experience, the sense of strain, and of wondering whether you can continue in the path laid down, comes entirely from the physical

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and not from the spiritual side at all. You must be aware that it is part of the plan of the shadows to endeavour, by that constant dripping that wears away a stone, to use such means as this to deter and dishearten you in the work that lays in front.

My children, because of all these things, all the disappointments of the past, the delays, the sinking of hope, and the gathering together of the fragments of courage - because of this, and only because of this, I am able to say tonight, to tell you as a direct comfort from the Master who understands - that in His sight you have done well, and you shall find the strength to do better still in the days to come.

Could you but grasp even the fringe of the meaning which lies underneath this message of Love, you would, with hearts full of joy, cast care aside, and resting on the sure support of His Grace, not only go on but also would lose the sense of anxiety, of strain, and of doubt over the material details of your earthly life, and those still more anguishing thoughts of your unworthiness to be the chosen servants of the King, acting under His direct guidance - for so it is that you are placed.

Tonight, then, dear children, having prepared your minds a little, I will pass on to the subject of: "Purification", because some of you are ready for this now.

As you can imagine, the processes of purification are manifold. It is not a thing that can be done at a blow, even by the strongest spiritual giant there may be. No, as with all things of a spiritual character, it is the slow evolutionary stages that produce perfection at last: The putting together of little things, the multitude of details, those comprehensive yet infinitesimal thoughts which flit through your mind, seemingly to possess the life of a moment's duration only. It is the minute yet persistent wish for self-control. It is in the pause for guidance. It is in that watchfulness over self, the desire to detach yourself from the world and the calls of the sense-body... It is in these things, and countless others, which are going on unconsciously in your spiritual mind, gathering grist for the unceasing mill of the Spirit.

Here, dear children, you get in rough outline, the first processes of purification - and as you go on they do not change, except outwardly, because, as I have told you, it is a matter of slow growth, that gathering together of forces which provides the strength to throw off the material

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ords that bind. It is in the building up, not only brick by brick, but atom by atom.

Thus you see that the processes of purification can't be hurried - there are no short cuts to that. Yet, at the same time, you can grasp that the processes can be seriously delayed by those who wilfully turn from light to darkness. The processes cannot be hurried it is true, but they can be worked out as God intended without curb or hindrance - worked out by you all in that harmonious, unbroken sequence, which signifies God's laws in everything, both in your world and in the Realms of the Spirit.

My children, I am talking perhaps of something that at the moment is a little beyond your grasp in the way of taking it in, and so, of necessity, the chief impression on your mind is the stupendous nature of the journey before you, which it seems to you, you commenced with very little preparation indeed.

In talking of the things of the Spirit, it is impossible to avoid giving the impression of immensity, of something which is beyond the finite mind altogether. But immediately you have the cheery reassurance that God is patient - oh, so wonderfully patient - that He doesn't expect His little children to be able to learn all their lessons at once.

No, with those who 'cram' - as you call it upon earth - you find that in most cases that the subject so entered upon soon escapes the memory, and, for the most part, can be ruled out as not having been learnt at all. It is by the study of a lesson that it is made your own; it is in the use of your powers of thought over the subject under attention that makes you retain, both now and in the far distant future, a pretty accurate remembrance of what you have learnt.

The same applies precisely to the things of the Spirit, and all you are asked to do - indeed it is better to act in this way - is to peg away at the task at hand. Yet perhaps in expressing it thus, I give an impression that it can be got through without much care or thought. Here you get the great difference between the speed or the slowness of the purification.

It is quite possible for the simplest tasks, for the most trivial things in daily life, to be largely instrumental in the speeding of the purification of the soul. Unfortunately, it is the world's point of view that only the big things count and only the public things that matter. When people come

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here, they have to completely revise their impressions of the things of the Spirit and the things of earth.

I want you to get these things in their proper place and in their right perspectives. It is no use during the evolutionary stages, to fix your mind, as you do - almost desperately - on attaining the highest point in one particular direction. The attainment of that is the ideal; and by fretting and abusing the physical side of your mind, you won't be able to make that coveted treasure your own - however much you try.

And yet the wish to reach the highest counts a lot - a tremendous lot. But remember that in the purification stages, things have got to be level - level and thorough in every direction, in order that you may pass on from one stage to the next.

I speak with great sympathy. Most of my children have what they call a 'weakness' of one sort or another, and because it happens to be in regard to something they dislike intensely - which, by the way, should tell them immediately that it is not of them in the sense they think - because that weakness calls up so much self-reproach, I feel very sympathetic towards them; and I tell them not to worry in the way they do, but just to scan their lives in broad detail - for by putting forth effort and concentration and always the wish to rise, they shall find that almost automatically, or perhaps I had better say 'unconsciously', that weakness falls behind and can be forgotten for ever more. The strength gathered on the whole, has made the levelling up possible, and as a natural consequence this and other kinds of frailties are as a retreating army which has been defeated and overcome.

There is much, dear children, that I might touch upon this evening, but I am going to leave things at this stage. You have been told that in the future calls will be made upon you in various directions, and tonight once more I give a little warning: I ask you to conserve your forces, to seek to get the upper hand of your physical minds, to try and govern your thoughts and not to allow them to master you, to show that because you are linked to the anchor of Christ, you can be steady and still and quiet when the occasion demands.

It is most important that you should have this firm hold on your minds - you cannot set out for any battle without the necessary equipment. But I say that all the equipment that you will ever require can be attached to you now by the observance of the little things, by the harnessing of the

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powers within for a definite given purpose, and by the seeking of self-control in all matters and in all ways. Because later on, that same self-control is going to be used by God to further His purpose in the raising up and the establishment of humanity where it should be, and must be, because it is His will.

Now, my children, I must leave you for a little while, and I want all your attention because my child is curiously tired tonight. I use that word because it is purely a weariness of the body, and not of the mind or the soul at all. You get the difference - and it would seem to you that being of a physical character only, it would hamper us practically not at all. Yet are we not dealing with physical laws? Am I not using the physical body, the voice, and many organs which you would think I need not trouble about?

And so, for the time being, because we work hand in hand with nature, I shall want all your help tonight in order to lessen the strain, and to show at the end of the evening replenished strength instead of a lower vitality still. We have done this over and over again, but we do it by legitimate means and not by a wrong exercise of the power lent to us by God. We do not go contrary to those most beautiful laws which He has thought out and put into being for your sake, dear children, and for mine - for our spirit's sake, for the working out and the purification of that which is not allied to Him...

(Others then spoke...)

MAY CRANE...

...Queenie has brought me tonight because she thought it would be a better introduction. It is May Crane, and you promised that I should come. I am so happy to be here - it is perfectly lovely in this room, and they say I may try to describe it to you.

There are over your heads beautiful sunset clouds, as it were, in festoons. These are shutting you in - into the circle of the Spirit... Can you follow me when I say that those beautiful clouds are like - they are like looking into the Infinite, as expressed by the sinking sun? They are symbolical of the beauty which more and more is being wound round your lives... I'm sorry I can't do better but do try and understand that when people are dedicated to service, they are not only protected but have the power to attract to themselves conditions which are not of the earth at all - they are purely of the realms on this side.

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And then there is this - but I am hard-pressed to describe it: There are the lines of light which connect you direct to spheres of love - from which your great leader comes, as you know. These connecting lines of light, dear people, are charged with such spiritual power that if you understood spiritual laws you could not only control and command yourselves, but also would have that authority over others.

There are many, many more things which have been brought into this room tonight. Don't think that the flowers are absent or that the beautiful canopy of peace - which you have had described before - has given place to the clouds which I have tried to portray. It is impossible to give an impression of such things as faith, hope, joy, truth, sincerity, and the other qualities which belong to the Spirit - it is impossible for you to understand how they are manifested.

I'll try again - what these attributes look like in their spiritual manifestation. You see, to you they are characteristics; to us they are living forces with separate individualities, colours, expression, expansion, outline - everything denotes something that exists in definite form. All these things are here tonight, and young as I must seem to you, it has been given to me to try and put into words what I see.

You heard just now about the way in which children are privileged. This is an example. And because I am still young and inexperienced, I thought I could express much better than I am able to, the beauties in which you are enfolded. It seems so sad to me that people upon earth should only see the bleakness that is around, and miss all that exquisite beauty of detail of everything by reason of physical sight and the restrictions of the physical mind.

And now I want to send a message to my dearest mother and father. I want them to be certain - as I know they are in their hearts - that I am their child still, in the house, in their lives, and doing all sorts of little odd jobs for them which I know I should never have thought of if I was still in the body. Will you tell mother too, that I tried to describe the things of the Spirit, in order that she might know a little of what her thoughts are building up - what she is drawing to herself by right, and what God's blessing is going to be turned into when she comes here.

But that I cannot touch upon - these descriptions of beauty are only faint reflections of what is being built up by the individual soul over here. I

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should like mother to understand that I have - because I am a child perhaps - I have been taken through the most marvellous gardens and lands, in order, they tell me, to try and train my mind for passing on symbols of beauty to those who are upon earth. Will you tell her that I am studying very hard indeed, and it is all for one purpose - to be able to describe to those who it seems are in prison, the glories of the freedom which is just outside.

Tell mother, and my father too, that not one prayer, not one thought in regard to me, is not a reality on this side; and because her thoughts so often have come God's way, she is going to prove to herself that not only has God the Father's Heart, but that in everything His ways are best - best and sweetest for us, in a way it is impossible to understand until we come here.

And then I just want to say one word to you who are strangers, or so it seems to you. I should like you to think of me with the others - with Ethel and Edie and Betty and, of course, Queenie, who brought me through tonight. And also to remember what was said the other night: That when you are asleep we play together in the most beautiful gardens you could imagine. Margaret and Dorrie, you are always there - and you are so glad to forget you are grown up in the body. How we do enjoy ourselves.

It is quite true, as Grantham said, that it seems impossible that we shall ever grow up. Here youth is no barrier to progress; often the young ones know as much as the older (in regard to years) and, as I said in the beginning, they seem privileged in this way: That those who really are experienced from a spiritual point of view, try and bring them on and let them do things which, from the world's point of view, would seem absurd by the fact of their responsibility.

Tell mother that, like all the others, I am changed and yet not changed. Ask her to think of me as a little girl in play, but as a woman now in her capacity for love and protection - which like all things on this side will grow and grow - as she will see herself when she comes here and traces back what grief has brought her, and how sorrow is always turned into joy.

I hope you will let me come again because it seems to me that I belong here, knowing all the others so well and being adopted, as it were, by them. Goodbye...

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(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, as usual we have tried a few experiments tonight, and I think on the whole we may say they have been successful. From our point of view they have been very successful indeed, but you are prone to look at things from the limited, yet superlatively critical attitude of the physical mind.

Tonight, meeting in peace, we part again in this sense - not only of peace but a little farther on towards the goal of understanding. And I want you to be quite certain that at the stage you have now arrived at, with much effort and much strain, that nothing will happen in your lives now that is not a direct means for advancing you on towards that fuller comprehension, when - as you have been told before - you shall see life as it is, and grief in any form will be unable to touch you.

Remember just one thing: That as you strive - aye, and as you hope to get on - so the Father sends the power. If you could only grasp this literal fact it would save you much - if you could only realise, all of you, that when you strive, as a natural consequence, so the extra power is given and can be used by you.

Ponder upon these things and of that greater, wider life which lies just outside your limited, smaller existence - and thinking, so shall your emancipation come, so shall the less strong ones find within themselves that dominant courage, so shall the stronger - imbued with the Spirit of God - force their way through the remaining difficulties. And free from narrow sympathies, free from the judgment of others, free from all those little things which hold back the pioneer, free from the earth - they shall no longer seek God and yet seem to miss Him - they shall seek and find, they shall knock and the door will not only be opened, just 'opened' to them, but shall be flung back and no power shall be strong enough to close it again.

To God then, once more, I commend you. Hand over your lives, your thoughts - all that represents yourself into His loving care, and you shall find peace and confidence and the sun of His beneficent goodness shall shine down upon you for ever more... Into His Hands I commend you... Amen.



WAITING.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 12th October, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Understanding Father, we come into Thy Presence once more with faith, with hope and with the assurance that Thou wilt send down the necessary strength - will so knit together the ties between the physical and spiritual worlds that it may be possible to do what Thou hast ordained shall be done this evening - and that we, conscious of having lent ourselves to this most holy work, shall be invigorated not only with physical strength but with that far more powerful strength of the Spirit.

O God, prepare our hearts and minds still more. Grant that we may instinctively attune ourselves to the highest, and that we may forsake for ever those calls of attraction which the shadows use in order to delay Thy children...

And then, O Father, we thank Thee with full hearts for the care which Thou hast extended to us, for the quietness of spirit, and for the determination to go on in spite of everything. We thank Thee too that, in a measure, burdens have been lightened, and we know that as we thank Thee, in the future we shall see Thy Love extended again and again until we are caught up into that perfect harmony which only unity with Thy laws and with Thy great plan can bring to anyone, either on the earth plane or in the realms beyond.

O Christ, give us of Thy patience, of Thy great, great patience with which Thou meetest all the thoughts of mankind - Thy great patience and understanding of limitations, of blindness, of hardness of heart - give us patience with others, and extend still more Thy magnificent patience to us so that we, certain and secure on all sides, may go on with unfaltering

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steps, with hope in our hearts and with faith to guide us all the way. Amen...

...Good evening, my children, and I hope tonight we are going to finish up on a little brighter note than last week. I want you to understand that these tests must be given, and must be accepted with as much willingness as is possible. It seems strange to you that the test should be applied when the physical condition is at its lowest, and I am quite willing to grant that this is a perfectly reasonable attitude to take up.

Still, you can follow me when I say that as the test had to come, had to be faced, and had to be triumphed over - it would have been absurd to have attempted it if the conditions had been sufficiently favourable to have done away with the test. You see, dear children, it is no use fencing these things. You must realise - indeed I cannot rest until that realisation is your own - you must realise that the very word 'test' implies a strain - it implies a strain even to the breaking point - but because God is in command of this little company, never shall the breaking point be reached, because at that stage the Shepherd steps in, and gathering His little flock into the safety of His Arms, bids them forget.

I want you to apply this, if you can, to the details of your daily life - to those important happenings which have a way of going wrong in spite of your best endeavours. I do wish that each time you could sufficiently detach yourselves from these incidents to say: 'It is but a test and I will take it in the right way'.

Of course, being human and to a certain extent at the mercy of the nervous system, it is not easy even to try and adopt this attitude, far less attain it. But again I remind you that this also is part of the test itself, and moreover, Christ is there to steady you - not there criticising your feeble efforts as so many think - but there in a truly helpful, father-like, understanding way, just as you yourself would watch a child with a hand ready, yet unseen by the little one, to catch it as it falls.

You see, dear children, that when I translate things from the earth way into the spiritual way, it all seems comparatively clear and easy to follow out, and you shall find yet that this is not a delusion - that by keeping close to the Great Spirit, the strength will come, and you shall know within yourselves that it is easy to accomplish for love of Him.

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And now having made that clear - and I like to clear up things as soon as I can after the experience has been weathered, although it seems to you that you could name several incidents during the time when we have been together in this loving companionship, that you could put your finger on this and on that which still requires a feasible explanation. Well, dear children, try and trust me just a little longer and believe what your leader states, without any qualification whatever, that he longs to give the necessary explanation as soon after each test as possible.

Now, tonight I am going to speak of a cheerful subject, one which I think will leave an impression on your minds that things are not so bad as they seemed, that the sunshine outside was not only outside, but a little has trickled in and will remain your own possession.

There are many in the world today who have thought deep, sad thoughts on the subject of: 'Waiting'.

In that word is summed up far more than any of you can grasp at this stage, but I am going to draw the veil aside a little and give you a bird's eye view of the inner meaning - God's meaning - in regard to 'Waiting'.

Go back over your lives - and there are few, dear children, who are not in the same position - go back and you will find that the most vivid impressions left upon your physical memory are concerned with waiting - waiting for welcome news; waiting for reassurance of material things; waiting for the word of love which should come after an estrangement; waiting for your ship to come in - that beautiful ship of the Spirit that carries the priceless merchandise of happiness - and you wait and wait.

Yes, we see this very clearly, and to those who thought that they waited alone, then tonight I dissipate that notion once and for all. No one on earth has ever been through the experience of waiting alone, and never, never will. The mere fact that anxiety presses, immediately brings into your circle the Messengers of God, and could you but see it you would know that they did not come empty-handed - they came with the gifts of the Spirit, and all around was beauty being built up to steady you against the following disappointment.

And now you know why it is that people say: 'I'd rather hear the worst - it is the suspense I cannot bear!' When they have heard the worst, then do those gifts brought to them - some from very distant spheres

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indeed - then do they make a showing, and so curiously enough, when the so-called 'blow' has fallen, the victim feels lighter-hearted than before.

I said 'curiously' because I was trying to look at things from your point of view and not from ours. It is as simple as A.B.C. to us - the preparation, the bulwarks of protection have been built up by those in the Spirit, and thus when evil has done its part, peace comes instead of added distress.

Well, dear children, we have got a little way from the happy aspect - and yet could I show you that brighter side, if I did not assure you first that I understand all the ins and outs of the sorrow-pains of waiting? When we grow older, pangs of waiting are less severe. To the young they are very bitter indeed; time seems so long and the knife cuts very deep.

With the young then, we have greater sympathy still because they so little understand what is going on underneath. They sail their little craft on shallow waters, and so instead of foundering in the ocean of suffering, they find that in a surprisingly short time they feel the bottom, and lo, all that is submerged is just a tiny part of them. No lifeboat is needed there - and for this we thank God for His understanding Love and His protection of those who, as yet, are young in experience...

Then you get the Law of Compensation. Later on in life, perchance, big troubles come, and then indeed the lifeboat of hope is needed urgently to save and to restore. But did I not say that age brings patience, that the pangs of waiting are lessened as the days go on? And so you see again how everything is thought of and provided against; and because the waters in this instance may be deep and dangerous, so is the help at hand, and, ere they sink, Christ - using us or sometimes preferring to do it direct Himself - Christ steps to their side and all is well.

When you are old - as the world calls age - then to those who have thought and tried to gather in something of the wisdom which abounds on every side, a glimmering comes of the Divine purpose running right through. And instead of regarding waiting as a penance, rather do they take it as a reprieve - and why? Because they know that by waiting, they are working out much which otherwise would remain, and so even as a reprieve they regard the waiting for God to take them home, to release them from the pains of the body, from the infirmities of old age, the weariness and the lack of companionship - because so many have gone on before - they take it all as a further extension of God's grace so that when

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they indeed come home they may find that, as far as they were able, their little bit of the pattern has been worked in with care.

My children, when you come home you will think just the same as I do, but with this difference: You will understand yourselves and your attitude towards physical life far less than I do. Now this perhaps may sound strange to you. It would seem that remembrance, being so keen, you would be enabled by the memory of pain to understand why this went so hard and that. But no, still you retain to a large extent the limitations of physical thinking, and because you are incapable of getting things in their right perspective, you will condemn freely and without mercy that other self who, it seems to you, did so badly.

That comes to all, both the so-called good as well as those who seldom put up a fight, but on those who wished to love God best the whip falls hardest. Yet again you want to know how it is that I, who certainly wish to love God with all my being, how I can take a lenient view of things.

My answer is: Only by the result of much experience, of watching the inward thoughts of strugglers upon the earth plane, of being with them in their loneliness and chill, and of living through the pains of the body over and over again; but not in sorrow - in joy, because I see, as well as feel, that in so doing both of us are a little nearer to Christ, our Master and our King.

There is, dear children, not one pang, not one half thought, half wish - good, bad or indifferent - that I do not understand; and when I say 'I understand', it means that I am able to look at things from the angle at which you see them at the time - but the great difference is this: That you see your tiny angle only, whereas I, seeing it precisely as you do - and I emphasise this most emphatically - can also see the beauty, the plan, the working out, and the happiness which lies in front.

Now, dear children, I want you first of all to take from this comfort in the thought of your companionship over waiting, and then, as we have despatched the added pang of solitude, to look a little deeper and a little higher and to see with the eyes of the spirit the wonderful weaving in, in regard to the garment of the spirit, that 'waiting' is able to bring into being. You have all heard something about the garments of the spirit, how they are created by each individual out of effort, out of that purification which is going on imperceptibly to you, but definitely - and in some cases with God-given swiftness - all the time.

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Now, you know that upon earth people look very different according to their attire, and many times you have exclaimed over the transformation that beautiful clothing has upon the physical features of the one concerned. My children, that is a crude illustration but it must do for now. Is it not cheering to think that instead of providing for your spirit a garment that is only just a little better than the one you are wearing now - isn't it cheering to think that by a little extra concentration, added care, and perhaps the pangs which go with these things until they are rightly understood, that you can, by patience, provide for yourself loveliness indeed? It seems to me - and you would agree at once if I could show you just a faint reflection of the glory of the spirit within - if you could have this reflection for one second thrown on your mind, you would say indeed that the outer covering must be as beautiful as you can possibly make it.

Lovely things need loveliness, even if they are shut in and apparently hidden. You could not, any of you, take an object of beauty and drape it with rags. At once the unsuitability of such a covering would offend you through and through. 'No!' you would say: 'The best I can procure!' And so just in the same way, I explain to you that those periods of waiting, when it seems to you that greyness is within and without - that those periods are weaving together a garment as beautiful as can be imagined, according to your development, and that later on that garment is going to be worn by the spirit within.

Everywhere, however far you go or however close you may look into the mundane details of daily life, there you will find that with the thing itself the meaning runs side by side - that nothing happens that is not two-fold, that has not its physical and spiritual significance. And so, of necessity, the question of the Hand of God resting heavily on this one and on that, falls to the ground - it is absurd on the face of it.

What is happening is simplicity itself. Certain souls there are, determined to make full use of the opportunity provided, have set themselves the task of weaving a garment worthy of the glory within or, indeed, as nearly worthy as their powers permit. And thus it is that the sorrowful, the seemingly forsaken, are blessed indeed.

They are those who, hereafter, will prove the successes; and the failures will be those who, viewing them with pitying contempt, took what the world had to offer, and - to their anguish when realisation comes - find that instead of a garment of beauty and of power indeed they are fettered in mail, and until the soul within can release itself from its entombment,

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so must they suffer and so must they work until they have found sufficient strength to emerge from the gloom of the prison of self into the brightness of service to others.

My children, you will gather from these few words, that instead of time being wasted by 'waiting', it is used to its fullest extent. You will realise from now that hindrances, setbacks, disappointments - why, they are providing just those golden threads which will be needed for the garment which you will don with so much joy and freedom in the days to come.

And remember that you were told before that those who wish to love and serve the Master are able to put on, ere physical life is ended, those beautiful garments of the spirit which, even to your limited vision, are reflected by the bodily presence. Have you not said that there are certain ones who, though still in the body, are able to reflect the brightness of the Spirit? These, dear children - as I have said - are wearing, during the physical stages, the garment of the spirit, which can be seen by those who have spiritual sight and spiritual understanding.

The impression I want to leave on your minds is entirely one of happiness and of reassurance, and in saying this I am not inferring that waiting is to be your portion now and for always - it is against common-sense. You know from your own experience that, in the lives of all, waiting is changed to something of a concrete character. Sometimes it is, perhaps, of a darker hue - but you have been told that winter is over for ever.

And I underline this tonight, because of the fact that the winter-time of the earth is approaching, and its darkness and its discomforts have a way of penetrating into the innermost corners of the physical mind, laying waste the flowers that you have tried to place therein. Summer is over and has left disappointment in its train from many points of view. You think this has been the case, and the prospect is not any too inviting when looked at from the physical aspect.

But I have told you, dear children - and I never speak idly as you know - I have told you that the spring of your experience will lead on to summer but never to winter again. And I want you to take this in its literal sense - not to say: 'Zodiac was talking of the Spirit alone'; but to accept it as I have said - in every sense there could be - physically, mentally and spiritually: Winter shall not come again, because in your

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hearts and minds you have found the will and the determination to follow the guidance of the Spirit, and to do the next thing.

There is so much I long to say but I too am anxious that the garment shall be as lovely as possible and so I refrain, just dropping here and there words of definite hope and cheer, and leaving the rest to God, who, in the most wonderful way, is going to turn sadness into joy, waiting into achievement, and hope into certainty and living faith.

And now I must go...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued)

...Now, my children, I think we have done enough tonight. I want you, in going over this evening, to remember that there was very little of a direct, personal character, although, of course, all we teach is personal - directly so - but, in the main, we have been training you to teach others, and by extending your own comprehension, to make it possible to widen the understanding of others a little more as well.

I want you to try, with persistency, to gather in the underlying note of the messages you receive at this stage, and I want you to see in them the builders' materials as well as the effort put forth by the builders. You will want them all later on - not one sentence will not justify its existence at one time or another - and although to you it may seem that we give the messages most suitable at the moment, yet I would remind you of what I have said before: That away back in the past the plans were laid down, and we, as it were, are only following and putting into action what was thought out with so much carefulness and precision before you knew of our existence.

This then, as well as what you have heard, should ring out that glad note of joy; there should be a sense of achievement, of being used - unconsciously though it may be - for turning that preconceived pattern into actual fact.

I have said, my children, that happiness was in the air - it is in this room tonight in such a gladsome way that I think it should be possible to make it your own and to keep it within as an honoured guest for a little while. I have to say that - because these honoured guests of the Spirit are so soon crowded out by the friends of the world, and you too sorrow over their loss and yet feel unable to keep them in their rightful place.

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There is a lesson in this - as in everything that happens - and it is all summed up in this: God's way and the way of the world. If you can be sure, even for a little while, of the circle of love which surrounds you, then happiness is fettered close to your side, and the strongest enemy cannot break the cord that binds. If, however, the trials of daily life suggest to you that the circle is incomplete, immediately - it is cause and effect - a gap is there in the sense that by your thoughts you have invited that which is totally opposed to the honoured guest, and one has to make room for the other...

My last words are these - to remind you that you are toilers in life's garden, and when I use the word 'life' in this sense, I am speaking of the life of the Spirit. You are toilers in life's garden, and the mere fact that it is a garden and not a wilderness should give you courage and hope.

There are few who chafe against creating beauty - the grumbling comes because so many think they are either doing that which doesn't matter or are creating ugliness itself. But those who are in their right environment, who are able, by putting forth the necessary effort to bring into being objects that please and satisfy, they are, as a rule, the contented people of the world; and so it should not be hard for you to be happy in your toil, the toil which is the substance of all the outward toil which you undertake. You are working in the garden of the Spirit - and the beauties there, both of bloom and of design, far, far exceed anything that the most skilled could provide with nature upon the earth.

So, little ones, casting aside thoughts of weariness, of wondering when it will end, turn back to your task refreshed, and know that you are toilers in the garden of the Spirit; and the tools that you use, if they are the right ones, come from God direct. Using these, the weariness will go, the sense of failure too will disappear - and in place of these will come the enthusiasm of the creator of beautiful things. And you know that as you work, so the Master of the Garden passes His approval, gives guidance, puts thoughts into your minds for improvements - and yet all the time gives you the praise as if you alone were responsible for the result.

It is a wonderful thought to dwell upon, and all the more wonderful, because of its truth. Therefore I can leave you tonight safe in the Tender Arms of Peace, of Joy, of Understanding, and the blessing of this evening shall dwell upon you because God has lent His power in a way truly marvellous to behold. Generous as ever, tender past all belief, our Father

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God has gathered us in tonight and allowed us to get a glimpse of the greater, wider life that lies not only beyond but on either side of the physical, only waiting to be discovered by the individual and to be entered into as a right.

God grant that the light of comprehension may illumine all, may banish darkness and misunderstanding, and draw His little children, both inside and outside the Fold, into the shelter so freely offered - we ask it for Christ's sake. Amen.

Goodnight, my little ones...



THE TWO-FOLD HARVEST.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 19th October, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O, God, the Creator of all mankind, the Father of humanity, the Tender Shepherd of the flock, we come into Thy Presence tonight with a renewed faith, with a steadier courage and with that consciousness that Thou art indeed within, inasmuch as Thy children wish to be more like Thee, wish to lay aside the trappings of the earth and, free from all that binds, to soar in thought above the world and its petty distractions and to know Thee in very truth.

O God, we thank Thee that this realisation is coming, that we are conscious of the link between man and his Creator, and that comprehension is slowly dawning upon us that Thou art ours and we are Thine. Grant that the steps in front, steep though they may be, may reflect their own radiance and that this beauty may call us on and on.

O Father, take away the hindrance of sad thoughts - those memories of wounds that will not heal - take away the remembrance of these and grant that the mind of each one may be so suffused in Thy glory and in the joy which comes from thinking of Thy Love, that all else may fall from them, and thus recreated in strength and in spirituality they may go forward, not only seeking, but finding and holding Thee fast... Amen...

...Good evening, my children, and I want to say at once that in this room tonight there is peace, that glorious visitor from on high, which, if you will, can be changed from a visitor into an inmate of the house - one who is not welcomed as a stranger but who holds its own place in the thoughts of each one.

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Peace, the peace of the Holy Spirit is here tonight, and I want you all to send out your thoughts - just as you would to a dearly-loved friend - and to fasten on that symbol of peace because it need not be a symbol only, but a reality, if you will do your part. Peace in the mind, peace in the heart, and then there will be that glorious peace amongst you, and sympathy and understanding.

Peace is as the solid oak tree - its branches are uncountable and the leaves on those branches are unthinkable by you. But as in autumn time the breeze takes the leaves hither and thither, so is the tree of peace; but its leaves are not in their dying stage, they are sent off over the world charged with strength and power, they are deathless each one; and although sometimes they are trampled underfoot, yet I say death cannot touch the leaves of peace - and presently, as a favouring wind strikes them, once more on they go doing God's work and bringing - in spite of the restlessness of the human mind - bringing consolation as they go.

My children, once more I ask you to try and follow me in thought. I want you to make your own, this illustration of the Tree of Peace, and when I tell you that some of its roots hereafter shall be found to have started in this room, you can gather that I am speaking of things which are entirely of the Spirit.

Don't you realise the privilege, the honour of this? - That amongst you there has been found sufficient vitality, suitable soil, to house some of the roots of the Tree of Peace. You know I never speak lightly, and the day shall come when, looking back over much that has occurred, you shall remind each other of these words, tonight... The peace of the Holy Spirit is among you.

Last week, dear children, I spoke about 'waiting', and I am glad to find that in many I awoke a responsive note - they were glad to know that there was one, anyhow, who knew something of the anguish of waiting. And this evening, harvest being somewhat in your minds, I think we will pass on from 'waiting' to the next stage, which is the harvest - the gathering in of the sheaves. And lastly - but that which should come first - the rendering up of thanks for the benefits received...

My children, most farmers would tell you that very seldom were their efforts crowned with success all round. It often happens that the field they set their highest hopes upon and, as a matter of course, on which they

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bestowed the greatest labour - that that field did not come up to expectation; in fact, it could be marked off almost as a failure.

Then in regard to another where, perhaps, seed was sown in order to give the soil a rest, or, it may be, just to use up an extra supply which was not needed for the former - there, quite unexpectedly, they saw not only the fruits of their labour but a harvest great indeed...

I am having a little difficulty here because I am stretching this illustration in order to make my meaning clear, and, in so doing, I am not stating things exactly as they are in regard to yourselves, yet the illustration stands so far as it goes.

In some directions you have sown with care, the labour has been heavy and the waiting long, and you look back and you see - so far as your physical eyes are concerned - a very poor return for all that it has cost. And there is something deeper than mere disappointment in this - there comes a sense of things having gone wrong - you argue to yourselves that surely such good seed - seed provided by the Master - surely such good seed should have produced something worth having... You see, I understand everything.

And then in regard to others - those perhaps you were not so anxious to gather in - they seem less difficult and - in some cases - you will find as the days go on, that those you almost would have rather done without will insist on taking their part. The extra seed sown in carelessness has brought forth a full harvest.

And there is another point which I must emphasise in regard to the seed which makes no showing - not from the world's point of view. Have I not told you, dear children, that not one word that you have spoken in regard to this Truth will be lost, and I reaffirm that statement again tonight: You sow in the mind of the body, but in the mind of the spirit the harvest shall come...

You see why I had difficulty in drawing my illustration? I inferred that sometimes effort and care and watchfulness produced only poor results - and that was wrong. Effort and care and watchfulness produce the highest and the best results - and if those results are hidden from you now, yet in God's time you shall see and rejoice at the plenteousness of the harvest so generously provided by the Father.

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And then I wish to divert your attention to another thought. While you are pursuing your course in regard to this work, you are able only to visualise the sowing in regard to others, but from our standpoint that is a very one-sided view to take. No one has ever sown the seed of one good thought in the mind of another that has not produced beauty of a definite kind in their own, and that is what I wish to drive home tonight.

Remember that the harvest is two-fold. You sow the seed and the result is shown in the life of another, if not in this world then in the Great Hereafter. And as you sow that seed, in the garden of your own spirit a root has taken hold, and that root turns into strength and power. And when you have spiritual sight you shall see that from very small beginnings, flowers and all things that are beautiful - because they reflect something of the beauty in the Mind of God - that those things are there in abundance in the garden of the Spirit, of which as yet you are almost entirely ignorant.

So, dear children, it should not be difficult to lead you on from the thought of the two-fold sowing, to thankfulness and joy that you have been called to serve the Master. Oh, there are many, many in the world to-day who are as straying children, bewildered by the cries of this and of that. Hither and thither mentally they go, dissatisfied, restless, always craving for that which is beyond their reach. Peace seems very far away indeed.

My children, what is it that they lack? It is a guide and a leader whom they can trust - and trusting can obey. It has been asked: 'What is it that the young require?' And the world answers: 'Pleasure and distraction!' And youth takes that greedily without a thought for the morrow. They are as children wandering this way and that without the guiding hand to help and to sustain.

I wish you all to adopt this as your belief and faith: That away down in the heart of the restless young, there is that which has never been touched, which lies sleeping, dormant, crushed in by the world and its many temptations. Yet within, as I have told you all, is that which is Divine, that which only waits for a voice strong enough, tender enough, arresting enough, to wake it from its slumber.

Youth calls to youth, and life at that stage seems deceptively fair, but in spite of this, happiness eludes their grasp. Youth is nearer to the Spirit than it knows, and God, mindful of the sparrows that fall to the ground, not only has them under His watchful care but sooner or later will

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call to them to arise - for their sleep is ended and the day of work has begun.

Oh, if the world but knew the treasure lying in the heart of the young; if those who have undertaken leadership - in God's Name - if only they had sufficient faith to brush aside the vanity and the careless indifference of youth, and to say to this one and that: 'God wants you - what are you going to do?'

My message to youth tonight is this: That in God's sight, they are precious indeed, and that He calls to their courage, their endurance, and to that brave pioneer spirit which the young possess in all its beauty. He calls to them to arise, to scale the heights, and to find that happiness which so far has escaped them. Oh, do not underestimate the potentialities of youth. Go back on the history of your times and you will find that when the need arose youth responded and showed itself heroic indeed.

What did they want - and what do they want today? A leader - a strong, brave shepherd, a fighter - one, who by showing intrepid courage, calls out the bravery in others. That is what youth wants, and until there shall be those who can free themselves from conventional ideas, who can cut the bonds of dogma and of doctrine, youth will stray - youth will stray!

I ask you all to do your best to spread this message to youth. Don't underestimate the goodness that is within; remember there is God there - beneath the trivial, petty, careless guise - there is God there, and that which is of God waits for the voice to call.

But it is no use calling to youth in a faint-hearted way. Youth wants to do big things, it wants to scale the highest peaks there are, and because there have not been those who have had sufficient courage to say to youth: 'I go first, follow after!' - so youth lingers in the valley and precious opportunity is wasted.

Yes, it will be a surprise to some. There are those who want to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. They try to attract youth's attention by giving them facsimiles of their own enjoyments under a different name, they try to buy their love by amusements, to fetter them to the Church by the social instinct which is so deeply implanted in them. Some there are, dear children, who can be caught by these means; they are young from a spiritual aspect as well as in regard to years, and the idea of

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diversion appeals to their minds because wherever they are they want to play.

But that is not youth in the main. During the great so-called catastrophe which came upon the earth (war), youth showed its greatness - and how great youth was you will never understand until, freed from the body, you shall see with us, the quiet sacrifice and the spirit of duty that held and possessed thousands of once careless boys. Youth showed then that only the best was good enough; and I say that although toys may be held out with the best motive there could be, toys will not attract those with active, growing souls.

Change your tactics then and see what can be done. Get out of the rut; talk to youth in the only way that youth understands - with that sincerity and straight-forwardness which some may think extreme.

But I know youth - I know the thoughts and the feelings cabined in youth - and I say that if there could be just half-a-dozen who would raise their voices above the clamour of the world and call to youth to climb - those who were brave, sufficiently brave, to get down from their intellectuality and to talk to the young as Christ talked to His disciples, then youth would respond in a way magnificent to behold, as history has proved again and again.

Christ told His followers that the road would be hard, that they would be stripped of everything that the world called comfort, that persecution would be their lot, that so-called friends would betray, and even hinted that death at the hands of the people awaited them at the end.

Is there so much difference between this and the call which has come again and again - the call to go on those long journeys of exploration, with its inevitable suffering, hardship and probable starvation? And is there one young man, who is a man, who does not long to go?

Then, in regard to the girls and, as you know, I have a very large heart for the growing girls. They too, perhaps in a different way, but entirely in a God-given way, they too long to do something which will justify themselves to themselves. They long to do this but the same irritations go on day by day, and life - look at it how you may - seems a very unheroic, if not a sordid, round of work.

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Sacrifice, dear children, is part of a woman's equipment; and, at one time or another in their lives, that power within finds expression. Yes, sacrifice and womanhood very often run side by side. And so I would underline it, that in speaking of calling to youth, in my mind, quite as much as the boys, are the girls, who only wait the Divine touch to set free those wonderful qualities within: the abnegation of self, the capacity of suffering for others. These are gifts of the Spirit, and, as I said, they only wait to be called forth from their hiding places.

My children, I have spoken at length tonight; but it was necessary, for in these days people are asking how to gain and to hold youth - youth which, at the moment, seems unwilling to give its attention to anything but pleasure. I speak in God's Name, and I tell them, with all the earnestness of which I am capable, I tell them not to lower their standard, because, in regard to youth, ideals cannot be high enough. I tell them to demand the very best, to bluntly and candidly point out the hardships - but also the corresponding gladness - to call for volunteers, volunteers to climb the difficult path into spiritual revelation; for volunteers to be the pioneers, so that others may be encouraged to follow after.

Speak to youth in the language that it understands; speak to the God within, and that Divinity will show itself stronger than all the world beside. But you must have the leaders and heroic ones at that. Christ fettered His followers to Him by example, and that is the only way it can be done. Go back in thought: Was there one officer with courage who called in vain for helpers? Not one. And so it has always been.

The heroic, because they are God-gifted, call out the heroism in others: The fighters, courage; the great, nobility; the spiritual, spirituality - and so happy in companionship, taking the rough with the smooth, trusting each other and certain they will not fail, the leader goes in front and the army follows on.

That is Christ's message to youth and to maturity - the message which I pass on through this instrument lent to us by God - hoping that there may be some who will think and ponder on it, and then arise and act.

And now I will go. Hold fast to the thought of the Tree of Peace, and give out of yourselves help and encouragement to those who, in coming, demonstrate the goodness of God in remembering the longings of His children. Thus I bring in again the need for thankfulness to the Great Giver of all, who not only bestows good gifts as you travel on your way, but

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at one and the same time is building up for you treasure in heaven - which means in that harmony and unity with Him which expresses 'Heaven' in every sense there could be...

(Others then spoke...)

CAPT. E.G. OATES...

...Tonight I have been allowed to come chiefly because I was one of those who eagerly heard the call to get away from city life into those great white wildernesses which are associated in your mind with polar expeditions. It is true that we had pointed out to us beforehand all the disadvantages of such travelling, the discomforts and the obvious dangers, but I never knew a man yet who had heard the call that was ever influenced one iota by the narration of the privations which lay before him.

It is curious in looking back to remember the changed feelings which, I suppose, more or less we all went through. The sense of excitement in the beginning, all the preparation and the talk amongst our friends, and then the voyage out which was always regarded as part of the happy send-off until we got beyond the range of so-called civilisation - and then the settling down to work. Oh, it was a business concern so far as routine was concerned. We did our jobs at stated times and in certain ways, and the time so taken was never interfered with except by an acute call for help.

That, as I see it now, was the time of preparation, the hardening of what is called 'endurance' for the struggle that lay in front. It is an enormous advantage to be well trained, even if it is only in the matter of peeling potatoes. You've got to harness your energies and your mind to certain things at certain times. It is the curbing and the restraint which are both needed in order to give stamina to that endurance.

And then, as you can imagine, the sense of anticipation when we first started the land journey. Like all things in the beginning, the enthusiasm staves back the sense of fatigue; but only for a while - and that's really the gist of what I have to say tonight.

In regard to the call of youth, they have got to face the fact that the time comes when the enthusiasm wears down and they are dependent only on the capacity within to hold on. It is particularly applicable to you

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because you've reached that stage now in the work - the hardest stage of all.

And yet there is all the difference in the world between journeying after the things of the earth - however valuable they may be - and seeking to cross that unexplored territory of the Spirit. The great difference, as I see it, is this: That with the things of God you are certain of getting through to your goal at last; with the things of earth it's nine chances to one that you'll never reach the spot you set out to find... It makes a difference, doesn't it?

I smile sometimes in looking back on my thinking of the importance of our earthly quest, and the pity it was that so little lay between us and entire success. Now I am free, and I found - as you heard the other night - that we were greater than we knew; that all unconsciously we had crossed a fairly big stride or so of the territory of the Spirit.

And when I came here - getting out of it, it seemed to me, in such a wonderfully easy way - when I came here, I found that all the real work had been put in on the pattern I was working out in regard to my own development.

It seemed very strange how such a thing could have escaped me for so long. I went back in my mind over the journey, each stage, and I saw the counter-part - only such a beautiful counterpart - in the life of the Spirit; and each pang was reproduced on this side as power - power in a way in which it is impossible for me to describe - power and happiness beyond all expression...

Yet all we did was to follow, in a curious blind way it seems to me now, the call within our minds to get up and go out and seek, and not to cease until we had found.

I am quite a stranger to you all from your point of view, but it gives me great pleasure to be here tonight; only sympathy and God's Grace could have made it possible. I came with my old friends, Scott and Shackleton, and my name is Oates - something that horses like to eat - and a name which is honoured by the world in a way far, far exceeding anything that was done or thought of by me.

Yes, I got out of things in the end in a wonderfully easy way, and I stepped into... I must leave it - but even now the remembrance comes back

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almost as a shock because of the contrast, and yet I knew at once that those who, as it were, met me on the threshold, had been with me every inch of the way and we were friends and comrades in mind and in spirit...

Wonderful are the ways of God, and, most of all, wonderful is His understanding of man's need and the desire within.

I must leave things there. It is my wish to come again and speak if possible, but there are many outsiders who must come first...

I am asked to thank you for what was done in regard to Shackleton. He asks me to say: 'Remember that what is sown in the mind of the body shall produce its harvest in the mind of the spirit'. He adds: 'Many forces are at work but the power of the Holy Spirit is stronger than them all'.

That's the end - goodnight, and I hope you will not forget the result of my journey and the glories into which it took me, because it is symbolical of your lives as well. Thank you...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

Well, my children, that last message was certainly a bit of a strain, but you know my opinion on struggle, and so it is not necessary for me to say that because a thing is difficult it should be abandoned - quite the contrary - because a thing is hard to accomplish, so we set our will on the strength which is of God, knowing that by faith we shall carry it through.

Those are my last words of cheer tonight. Set your wills on the strength which is of God and you shall find, however hard the enemy may attack, however diligently it may tear to pieces that which has been put together with so much effort - however destructive these forces may be - the Great Constructor can repair all damage, and instead of the attack causing weakness to the foundation, by your very resistance, it shall be made doubly strong.

So, dear children, go on in faith, in certainty, and in perfect confidence - for the things of God are the things that last. The fabric built by human hands, if made of the earth, shall pass away; but the owners of those same human hands shall find with delight that when using the tools of the Spirit, even though they build in common clay, yet by the miracle of God's Love, that shall be turned into a thing of such spiritual beauty that it can be carried intact from the earth to the High Place where it belongs.

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Therefore, dear children, be of good cheer. Do not say: 'How long is today!' but rather: 'How bright tomorrow is going to be!' And if chill is in the air, then take for your comfort the assurance of the protection of that wonderful Love which surrounds your life now and for ever more.

God has ordained that the fuller Light shall come, and if hindrances arise, yet what He says stands, and you shall find - even if events on the surface belie my words - you shall find that in the heart and mind of man great things are working - the Spirit is asserting itself, and sooner than you dare to hope shall the realisation come... And that is the beginning of the cleansing of the world...

You and I, dear children, used as tools, shall in that glad day have cause to rejoice; and all those, be they great or small, who have struck one blow for the liberty of the Spirit - they too shall see and rejoice, and God's blessing shall be worked out with that infinite completeness which only the Divine Mind could conceive.

Happiness is in the air - and not on the wing from some far distant shore. Therefore, prepare yourselves to go out and meet the welcome guest, and know that God has sent happiness in order to prepare you for the greater happiness of the Spirit when your earthly race is run and you are free to explore what you will. Understanding shall be given you to take in something of the great truths of the Spirit, and learning, you shall teach others, and, as you teach, shall yourselves step into new areas of thought and comprehension, and so joy mounted on joy shall lead you on and on...

This is the Promise given to all who are willing to climb. Nothing shall be withheld from those who seek; and if courage is needed, then I say that the greater courage which is of the Spirit shall be your own, and the brightness of the Master's Presence shall hallow and sanctify the path you tread.

In God's Name I gather you in, in His Name I bless you, and under His most inclusive care I leave you... Peace now and always - the peace which is of God.

Goodnight, my children.



GOD'S PURPOSE IN CREATING MAN.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 26th October, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Father of Infinite Love, we gather together once more in faith and ask Thee to give us the gift of understanding, still more the wonderful protection that is around all those who seek to cross those imaginary barriers between the earth and the realms above. Oh, grant that this realisation may so fasten itself on the minds of Thy little children that they may be certain that with Thee all is wonderfully well.

Grant that we tonight, approaching holy ground with trust and with the wish to serve - grant that we may be allowed to enter into some of the brightness which Thou expressest to all who know Thee. Grant that each one may feel the Presence of God in very truth, and that this sense of contact may not bring fear or apprehension, but may despatch for ever that sense of separation which now and again comes to torture those who wish to climb.

O Understanding Mind of Love, raise us above the world; lift us in thought, in aim and in purpose above all those ensnaring meshes of sadness, and grant that we - free and emancipated because we are Thy children - may go forward in joy, in that inward peace, and in the knowledge that we are answering to the Voice of Love which calls us on and on. Yet, ere we start to take, we seek to give of that little which is within our hearts.

Christ, accept that which is Thine, and grant that day by day it may grow so that in time to come the gift of our love may indeed seem worthy in our own eyes. Such is Thy bountiful grace and understanding that we know that even at this stage Thou art content to stoop down and take from us with

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happiness that little which each has to offer. And for this and for all those mercies which Thy children as yet only sense, for all these we thank Thee with grateful hearts, and ask - asking always, as Thou hast directed - ask that out of Thy great generosity Thou wilt give unto us the power to rise, to be and to act - to Thy honour and glory... Amen...

...My children, tonight I want you to regard silence, the silence of the Spirit, as especially necessary because we are getting on to holy ground. You have been told in many ways that on entering into the holy place of the Temple of God it was the custom to remove the shoes, so that not only was the worshipper free from the dust of the world but also he entered into the sanctuary of the Most High in quietness and in simplicity.

Children, the time has gone when I could talk to you as the world speaks, when I could appeal to your mind through the imagination which belongs to the body and not to the soul; the time when I distracted you from your troubles as a Mother distracts her child - by seizing the first thing at hand and trying each one until the attraction was strong enough to turn tears into laughter...

My children, those days are past, and I want you tonight and from henceforth to adjust yourselves to this new conception of approaching that which is Holy. I want you, as you were told by one who is nearer to the Spirit than he understands (Dr. Vanstone) - I want you to alter the measure of the Divinity within. And you cannot do that if your mind is distracted by this and by that.

Only holiness can contact with holiness; and the things of the earth - harmless as many of them may be - do not ring true to the music of the spheres, and thus sadness creeps in and precious opportunity is wasted.

There is around you the same cordon of Love but it varies in some particulars, and tonight, if you had eyes that could see, you would know that the Spirit of God was demonstrated in this room in a way that the closest student of the things of God would reject as absolutely impossible.

But I speak of things not as imagined by the mind of man while still fettered in the physical body; I speak not even of that spiritual imagination which sometimes does get very close to that which is actual living truth - I speak tonight of conditions and of manifestations which are entirely of the realms above. And you, feeling yourselves in this circle of

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light and love and protection, can, I am sure, let everything else go and send out the real you into the silence - into the holiness of those inner, so-called secret places of the Most High.

Tonight, my children, I lead you on from the thoughts which arose out of 'The Call to Youth' (19th Oct. 1924) - I lead you on from that and I ask you to bestow some consideration and prayer and thought on the great purpose which God had in mind in creating man to rise from small things into the power and purity which is of Himself.

Time moves slowly to you - the years roll on and it seems to the physical mind that very little change occurs; that this nation rises, reaches its zenith and then sinks back again into an inconspicuous position. And the world accepts it as direct cause and effect - as something which, because it has happened in the past, will happen again and again, and so on into the interminable future.

Of course, dear children, it is only natural that humanity as a whole is interested in these outward and visible signs of greatness or of failure. But I want you to get away from the physical aspect of things, and to ponder a little on the spiritual evolution of the individual soul.

To the surface thinker it would seem that I am narrowing my borders by laying aside, for the moment, the big problem of the world; the problem that can never be answered by the greatest or the wisest on earth because they have not got the key to the riddle - or if they have found that key, have not sufficient courage to produce it. I say, to the surface thinker, it would appear that I leave the broad view and concentrate on the narrow, but you shall see that only by analysing and considering the construction which the individual is working upon - or neglecting, as the case may be - that only by applying the microscope of spiritual vision, can we understand what is animating the world at large.

In the lives of the vast majority - indeed I could almost say in the lives of all - you will get worked out what the history of the nations shows you in bold detail. You will find at one time powers seemed high, that they attracted to themselves some of the gifts of the world, and that they enjoyed a moderate form of success in the particular positions in which they were placed.

And, then, apparently for no reason at all, the full tide started a slow retreat, and, to their amazement and affrighted vision, presently the bare

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shore was revealed and the waters of happiness seemed to have receded out of sight.

At those times, dear children, whatever is in the individual comes out, and, more than that, it is laid out for others to see. Just as the stones on the shore or the shelving sides are hidden by the beauty of the swift moving waves above them - so in their days of prosperity the real self was hidden from those who thought they knew them best. But with the barren shore, subterfuge is useless; they are face to face with themselves, and unless there is some hold on God, pitiable indeed is their lot...

Yet as the years pass on, slowly the waters of happiness come creeping back; but whether they are of beauty and of power depends entirely on the work which has been done on the naked shore. Fence it how you may, the test comes then. Only those who, in searching out their latent resources have found something to cling to, can hold happiness - the happiness that will last.

Children, sometimes it seems to you that there are those who have not had the ebb and flow; but when they come here and see things as they are, they would be the first to tell you that the ebb and flow - or the flow and ebb, as the case may be - had occurred, but they were unready for it, and so sadness took the place of gladness. And they see that had they found within themselves the strength to hold on to God, the ebb would not have had that permanent aspect, as it appeared to you...

I think you can guess why I speak of this tonight. You must recollect all of you that, from the world's point of view, your shore has been exposed for a very long time - and so it has. It was necessary that the uneven places should be filled in, that the stones should be so arranged that they neither proved a menace to you or to others, that much work had to be done to make the shore as beautiful without the sea as when the sea rolls in.

That is the purpose behind all that happens on the sorrow-side of life; and you will agree that when this care and over-seeing is omitted, it is a terrible waste of opportunity and, more than that, it is by reason of those omissions that happiness retreats once more.

In the life of the individual there is reflected the fate of the nations; and how often is it, dear children, that by suffering, a nation finds its firm foundation at last. Oh, there are many enemies, of course - they are the

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testing ropes which pull in all directions to see if the fabric is sufficiently firmly established to resist and to hold fast. You cannot be certain of your foundation until the test has been met and faced.

And I want you all to so widen your borders of thought that, in thinking of the individual, you can apply it to yourselves; then to again widen the radius of your thought to include your neighbour, and once more to stretch those boundaries and to take in humanity as a whole.

It would seem to you, however, when you get on to such a broad basis of thinking, that the necessary preparation has not been done in order that happiness should come and should stay. Yet, dear children, in the individual life again you get your answer. God, of necessity, has to use the individual in the shaping and the working out of His plans, and so you will see from this the importance attached to the individual rather than to mankind as a whole.

Once more it is by considering the little things, the single atom of the great conglomeration of the world, as it were; it is by giving your attention to the individual that you can cause, in time - in common with all those who are working for God - a revision in the thought of the great collection of human life.

It has been said, and rightly so, that you want to get down to essentials in order to raise the people. It is no use speaking of treasure in bulk, when this one and that goes hungry for the sake of bread. You have got to get down to the individual point of view. And what is it that the average one seeks? Another who can see their view - who understands the human longings and needs of the apparently forsaken.

It is not easy to express in finite terms that which is infinite, but I must leave some inkling in your minds tonight of God's purpose in regard to the children He loves so well.

I want you in everything to get back to the one thing which pervades - which overwhelms everything else - and that is that: God, in allowing man to start off on the journey of the Spirit, has always the End in view; and it was Love and Love alone that allowed the individual to set out and try and find himself; and in thus finding himself to be linked - in a way hitherto impossible - with God and all He represents.

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Follow the road of life how you will - and I know, looking at things from the physical aspect, it must seem that it is a road beset by pitfalls and traps - but only by the experience so bought can the material be submerged by the spiritual, and only by taking the rough hillside can that spirituality, emancipated and free, triumph over all.

Once before, dear children, you were told, as perhaps you will remember, that the chief preparation goes on underneath - in the inner recesses of the soul. And I want you tonight, in regarding the individual - and especially those who are reluctant to forsake the things of the world - I want you to remember that God very often works on that which is covered up.

And so it is that when the test comes you hear again and again: 'They took it better than was expected'... Unconsciously the shore has been prepared, and when the tide of happiness goes rolling out it does not reveal that which makes you shrink but only that which can be filled in by effort and work and prayer.

In regard to your work amongst the individual, don't underestimate its importance. It seems to you that there are some who could speak to an audience already half prepared, and you sigh at the precious opportunity which is slipping by. I understand all this and more; and will you try and believe me when I say that in God's sight the gathering of one lonely soul into the brightness of His Love counts, with Him, the same as if you could send your message far and wide?

I do not want you to belittle the work that you do. I want you to realise that it is part of the plan, the position in which you find yourselves - and if it had been God's will, He could easily have surrounded you with all that good material which you so long to have the opportunity of working upon. Far more than you can guess the preparation is going on underneath; and by a word here and there to the individual, you are providing that which is necessary.

After all, what is it that tells in life? The quiet conviction and faith of the individual - because in coming in contact with others, far more than they know, they leave an impression of that same faith on the mind of the other.

Oh, do not be disappointed; do not deplore the fact that you cannot broadcast the message of Hope, for you shall find that by pegging away at

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the individual, so - in God's good time - shall the influence spread and spread until at last the soil is suitable and the seed can be sown freely in all directions.

The work goes on apace in many ways which are hidden from you, but the work goes on apace; and that which was done in diffidence and with misgiving shall produce not only the desire for better things in the heart of another, but the courage to set out and seek until they find...

So the good work goes on, and out of the tiny seed of endeavour grows that great tree of achievement which, in the by-and-by, shall be very pleasant to look upon.

And now, my children, I will leave you. Perhaps you think it wiser for me to stay, but there is work that has to be got in tonight, and in following out that which has been laid down to be accomplished, we shall gain our happiness in the end...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Now, my children, I am not going to keep you longer tonight. We have fought the good fight and we have won through; and I want you to know that if it had not been for those few words of preparation in the beginning, tonight would have been marked off as the first failure we have had.

I urge you to remember this always: To be still more rigid over the preparation, the sanctification of yourselves unto this great work, which even now is assuming proportions of which you little dream.

There is rest for the weary, peace for the soul in doing that which God has appointed; and you shall all find, with so much relief and so much joy, that the struggles were not failures but firm successes, and that only by conquering and re-conquering the opposing forces, were you able to go on into that security where evil cannot approach.

I told you tonight, dear children, of the cordon of Love which was around you. It has remained intact, and even when the interruption came it was powerless to touch that, and so I could give my child instructions to do that which was needful. Again and again the power was cut into in a way you cannot grasp, but again and again was it replenished - and we have finished stronger than we began.

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Oh, take from this the comfort I long to give - that in spite of struggle, of sorrow, and of many enemies - you shall finish stronger than when you began. It is of the morrow I speak when sadness shall be no more, when effort will be crowned by result, when weariness will have changed into that restfulness - which only the fight well fought can bring. Resting in the strength which is of God we shall gain the highest peaks with no loss of courage, but with that greater courage which is born out of the very fears it overcame...

So, in God's good time, we shall find ourselves up there and able to send back strength which, over and over again, shall be used to help the weaker ones to climb.

There is one for whom I would say a word, and that is our friend who was in your thoughts last night. He does not speak this evening because there are some things which cannot be talked about; but I had to put it into words because he suffered too - he suffered too.

And now for the blessing: Tonight it is not only of peace but it is of a gladness surpassing anything that has come your way before - the gladness of having kept true to Christ... In His Name I bless you and in His care I leave you, knowing that each evening of this sweet communion draws closer the ties, not only between us, but those precious ties between you and the Great Spirit, which shall never break and shall never give...

The blessing of the Great Spirit of Love and Light and Understanding rest upon you for ever and for ever; and this is a promise and not a request - a promise which I pass on - that between the Great Spirit and His children nothing can come because of all the past has held, for which we thank God - we thank God for all the past has held.

My children, echo it too because you have builded better than you know, and the vision of the Spirit shall be yours...Goodnight, my little ones.



THE SAINTS AND THE HOLY DEAD.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 2nd November, 1924.
(All Saints' Day)
Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O gracious and kindly Father, we gather together asking that Thou wilt draw aside the veil between the earth and Thy love and that we, seeing and understanding, may for this short time enter into the holiness of the things of the Spirit.

O Christ, help us to step aside from self, grant that all thoughts of the world - with its noise and its stress - may fall from us and that we, as little children with simple faith and with the longing to understand - that we may gather close to Thee knowing that Thou hast said: 'When two or three are gathered together in My Name there am I'.

O God, we thank Thee for Thy Presence - for this holy influence that is stealing over all. Grant that indeed we may emerge from the material self and - free from everything - may in the Spirit contact with those who are serving Thee in the Bright Realms...

Help us, strengthen us, purify us and give us courage - courage that we can rise above the strain of physical life, courage that can see in the cloud the Light beyond, courage because we are doing Thy work... and we know that as the need arises so the help is poured down.

O God, cleanse our hearts and minds. Make us humble in our own sight. Grant that we may be led and guided as well as protected by Thee, and thus going forward in joy - in the great happiness of knowing we are obedient children in Thy sight - we may, ere the body is laid aside, contact with the holiness which belongs to the Eternal Home which Thou hast prepared for each one.

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Thy blessing, O God, is upon all Thy children - the children which Thou hast given me - and I thank Thee, thank Thee that darkness has been turned to Light, that sadness is going to be changed into joy, and that we shall go forward doing Thy will and showing others the gladness of service... Father, I thank Thee...

...Good evening, my children, and it is a very happy occasion for me. I want you all, especially the strangers, to realise that you are my children; I want you all to see in me one who has loved you well, one who has watched your steps for many a long year, and one given this power by God, who has, in His good time, drawn you into this sacred circle and has bound you again and again to the things which are of God.

Oh, never think that chance plays a part in the life of anyone, still less with those who wish to find the Master. You should know, all of you, that the plan of your life is clearly written down, and you, before you took on the body and physical existence - that you in the spirit, traced the events from the beginning unto the close.

I emphasise this tonight because you have referred to those who seem to have been stricken sorely by the omissions or commissions of others. Yet it should hearten you all to know that this was no chance blow falling upon them while Christ was looking after others. No, out of the deep recesses of their soul came the wish to climb, came that longing to take on a burden for Christ's sake, because they saw what it would bring. Never commiserate with those who are in trouble - pour out upon them your sympathy, give of your help in unstinted measure, and commend them, but do not commiserate with those who have chosen the steeper side...

If you could only grasp this tremendous fact - if the world at large could only get a glimmering, sadness - as sadness - would exist no more. They would see in each trouble, each pang, not only the love of God but the love within, which - striving to reach Him in sympathy - chooses the hardest road that courage allows.

Yes, you will think, as you listen here, that all seems wonderfully plain and clear; and then as you go out into the busy life - with its irritations, with its sordidness and lack of harmony - the thought of the

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comfort recedes, God seems rather far away, and that which bruises you so much closer, almost pressing upon you.

But, my children, remember that you are the chosen, you have heard the call and you have answered, and it is only just that physical mind which, when you pass out of the body will be laid aside so gladly - it's only that little part of you that mourns; while the spirit - that which is going to represent you for all eternity - the spirit rejoices in its burden.

Let not your hearts be troubled if things go wrong, let not the sorrowing thoughts go too deep for those who have passed on. All, all is well, and separation exists only to that same small part - the physical mind - and nothing more. That which belongs to God is linked to them, and nothing can sever love or separate your loved ones from you.

And now, my children, I am going to ask something from you, and I know you will give it willingly and gladly. I ask you to focus your mind on God alone - to get away from the thoughts of those best beloved beyond the so-called veil, to get away from every thought of self - even from me, although you listen to my words - and to raise your minds and think of the Presence of Christ, looking only into His eyes, just as if you could see Him with your physical vision as He blesses each one.

Christ is the link - there is no other. Many have thought otherwise and have been led on in the end to disappointment. Christ is the only link between those in the body and those who have laid it aside.

Tonight, instinctively, our thoughts travel far and wide; it is a day in the world when attention is fixed upon the saints - the saints and the holy dead. You see I have to use the earth phrase to express the attitude of the world... The saints of God - and to the mind of some, the vision comes up of some vast concourse of people and away yonder, upon a magnificent throne - God, the Jehovah, the King of kings. It is a very usual illustration but it does not express conditions on our side - not in the least so far as the placing of the saints is concerned.

Once you have loved God, instinctively your attention is riveted on Him - but not in the sense of paying your duties or in listening to the words of a King. That vast concourse of people surrounding the great white throne exists in imagination only, and is purely symbolical of the attitude of adoration with which we regard the Father.

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You should know that God, being our Father, does not stand in need of this - it is we who are in need of so much attention. But the Father, the Great Spirit, Lord God Almighty, has different ways of working, and He, while casting the beauty and the brightness of His Presence over all, takes nothing Himself...

And there you get the contrast between the kings of earth and the King of kings. So significant yet so simple. The kings of the earth take the service of others, they are surrounded by those who hang upon every look and word, whose mission - whose life's occupation - is to study their master.

But I say that the King of kings takes no such personal service from us. It is He who gives, and we who take. And when those come here who have the earth idea of kingship - they are amazed at the humility of the Greatest of All. God sets the example of service, just as God in Christ upon earth bathed the feet of the disciples.

Oh, it should tell you much, it should alter your whole conception of things, it should bring home what you have to do, what I have to do, and what all the countless millions have to do in the end: To Give and Not to Take.

Yes, this is getting to the heart of things, and I am instructed to tell you tonight that the King of kings waits and watches over the frailest - to you the most insignificant of His little children. The great lesson of service is laid out for all to see by His example. And when - as at times must happen - your service to others seems to be imposed upon, remember then, all of you, that in serving you only pass on the service that you get from God.

Here we come down to that rarest quality of all - about which I have not been able to speak to you very much because you could not understand. I am speaking of gratitude to your Father, gratitude to Him who is highest and strongest and best of all, because only by Him and through Him can you gain immortality - can you gain the only thing that matters - to be a little more like Him and to know what real love is like.

Yes, my children, hard though life may be, distasteful though the duties which recur so often, yet in faith I ask you to look beyond today - nay, more, I ask you to look beyond this year and next - and again I bid you fix your mind on the glorious Hereafter when you shall see for

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yourselves the service which Almighty God renders to you - without pride, without stint, just love poured out - and you, in turn, trying, in your limited way, to pass on fragments to another...

Yes, the bells ring out - not the bells of your world am I referring to but the bells of the spheres, distant to you but in reality touching your own - the joyous bells which tell once more that Christ is born anew each minute into the heart and mind of man.

There are those who seem to have strayed. There are others who wilfully turn their backs on that which is of the Light. In regard to these I have a word of hope. Remember that each minute - aye, each second - Christ stands ready to make the gift anew, to give and to give again. And the time will come, either on this plane or another - but the time will come when at last the response will be made; and then, guided as well as protected, the reluctant ones will hasten their steps into the Land of Promise - into the bright Hereafter.

So, my children, I ask you to think inwardly - you know what I mean: To get into the way, instead of your thoughts being thrown out on this and on that which shall pass away, to send your thoughts back into the Spirit and to learn from within and not from without.

And all that is necessary is this: Just the simple gift of 'the wish to be' - I do not say the gift 'of being', because very few can rise to that - just the gift of 'the wish to be'.

Hold it close, let it be your waking thought, keep it in mind as sleep claims you, and you shall find that the wisdom of the Spirit shall be yours - not the knowledge of the world, which is required only for a limited portion of your existence - but the wisdom of the Spirit, which has got to be found, held and retained for ever.

It is open to all. In the sight of the Father all are equal. He does not give privileges to one and withhold them from another. In your world it seems that some are highly gifted and that others have opportunities of culture which have not come your way. But the Father distributes equally the gifts of the Spirit, and the only thing which is needed to get to the highest point is dedication - that dedication which combines sanctity and service. With this one weapon of dedication you can go on and on and no barriers will be found.

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Oh, isn't it worth while? Isn't it worth a pang? Isn't it worth the longing for the sympathetic companionship of others? Isn't it worth giving up for a short space of time those you love so well? Ah, dear children, you should know that these are as crumbs when you are offered the Bread of Life. 'Take, eat that which is of Me' - the wisdom of the Spirit, the knowledge of the Love of God.

And now, my children, I will leave you, because there are those who are anxious to come. Still fix your minds on God, and you shall get your heart's desire, or something which perhaps is better expressed by saying 'the desire of the soul' - you shall get that for which your heart cries out and for which the spirit longs... The peace of God is here - hold it fast, hold it fast...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I think we have had a happy evening, and could you see things as they are, you would know that it was the happiness which is allied to the things of God - the happiness that fills up all the corners of the mind, and the restlessness sinks back while peace holds its own, and you are thereby able to contact with Heavenly things.

Yes, in your world 'heaven' expresses that which is perfect, and could you grasp it, you would find that as you do your daily task, whatever that may be, you are gathering together material, not only for your own personal 'heaven', but for those bright spheres to which each contributes his part - for only by the efforts of the individual is the beauty and the power built up.

You see, dear children, God understands the human heart far, far better than you do. Yet you do know that that which gives the greatest satisfaction is what you have been enabled to put together yourself - and when the result is a success, why the satisfaction is a hundred times greater than if it has been handed over to you in the finished state by another. Human nature likes to construct, it likes to build and to see how the parts fit in - and to those who have got that constructive side this should appeal.

The journey of the spirit produces, inch by inch, that which is reproduced in the spheres. And when you go hence, you will not find that your conditions have been built up by another - not in one particular. You will enter into joy and beauty, but it will have been put there - substantial,

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real, impossible to destroy - put there by your small efforts, the thoughts of kindness and of sympathy, the work well done when it went against the grain.

You build your own 'heaven', dear children, and no one else can contribute one ray of light. Yet what happens is this: The trivial round, doing the same thing day by day, the weariness, the disinclination overcome - these are taken by the Great Father - and passing His Hand over them, as it were, the result is beauty and power which belong to you and which no one can take from you...

My last words are these: See to it that the knots in the rope of your spiritual progress are firm. Go back in thought on your early stages when the desire first came to you to disentangle yourself from the material world - go back in thought and see that the knots are firm, see that the Spirit of God animated you right through - and then, dear children, I can promise you, with so much gladness and assurance - I promise you that you shall extend that rope in a way amazing in its rapidity...

Just as in scaling a turret wall you would gain foothold on the knots, so does your spiritual progress go. And the knots are the tests - those tests which must come and which must be accepted with as much willingness as possible.

Therefore, with this closing thought I leave you: See to it that the knots in your rope are firm, and if God is in your heart and mind - nay, if only the wish to have God in your heart and mind be there - nothing shall be denied you.

And you shall see, not only in your own lives, but in the lives of others, the Spirit of God at work, controlling, uplifting, ennobling, and then you shall acknowledge with joy and with thankfulness that it was well worth while - that the climb, steep and arduous as it may have been, was well worth while. And in that day you shall know happiness indeed, the happiness which is of God, your Father.

My children, I bless you with peace, with unity, with courage, and with hope - in the Name of Our Saviour Christ, I bless you and gather you in. See to it that you consecrate yourselves unto Him, and hold fast to that which shall show you in the days to come, love, revelation, and that illumination which shall surpass all that your imagination could conjure up...

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I bless you in the Name of Christ Our Saviour... Amen.



THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR CHRIST.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Tuesday, 11th November, 1924.

(Armistice Day)

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O blessed and compassionate Saviour, we ask Thee tonight to listen to our petitions - to throw Thy love around each one so that those they love may come close and fold them unto themselves.

O understanding Father of Love, give us this day our daily bread... As we wait we know that Thou art willing to give and give again, to forget the omissions of the past and to give strength for the future. We know that in Thy Hands all are safe and we, as little children in trust and faith, can count the veil as non-existent - can speak to, and receive messages from those linked to us by love...

Christ, raise our minds from the earth, break the cords which bind us unto the world, and for this short time when we meet together, let it be possible that we may think in the spirit, and that the mind of the body may lie quiescent, making no barriers in between. Father, we ask it in Thy Name, knowing that Thy blessing is upon us all. Purify our thoughts; grant that self may sink back and that we, free from all that hampers, may know and feel Thy Love in very truth... Amen...

...Good evening, my children, and I am sure it is not necessary to say how gladly I welcome you all. Could you but turn over the leaves of what has been, you would see that your meeting together in this sweet communion, with this sympathy and love, was the work of those who have gone on before. You acquiesced and nothing more...

Tonight, dear children, we have much to do, and I want you to give me your undivided attention - I want you to get away from all thoughts of the personal, and just to lend yourselves to me so that I may give back in

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return... My little one (Dorrie) need have no apprehension - the protection is doubly sure tonight...

First of all, dear children, I want to have a little talk with you about the old, old story - which is ever new. I speak of The Birth of our Saviour Christ, and I remind you of the Star of Bethlehem. I want you to think just for a few moments about this star because it symbolises so much.

Christ, the gift of God, was typified by a bright star in the heavens - and yet what happened?... Familiar as it is to you all, I do not go over the ground again, but my point is this: That had man listened to the voice of Truth, that star would never have been turned into a Cross.

This is symbolical of much. I want you to visualise, if you can, the story repeated over and over again: The Star of Hope turned by the evil in man's heart and mind into the cross of sorrow.

And this, dear children, is the personal experience of many today. At some time in the career of all, the chance comes to listen to the voice of Truth; but they turned from light to darkness, and then - just as in the days of old - across the sky-line of their lives, the cross lies instead of the star of the Spirit.

Yes, this is true today as it was true those generations ago. You have, each one, presented before you the star of new birth - that birth in Christ which, if only the faith were there, would shine so strongly that the cross would be lost in its brightness...

My children, sorrow must come - it is the training process, it is the reason for the necessity of existence in the earth body. Could you have a life free from pain and from that deeper anguish of the mind, you would pass hence with very little added to your store. Do not think that I speak with hardness - it is because of that intimate understanding of all those pangs which tear your heart so much, that I try to show you the meaning, the purpose lying underneath.

It is God's wish that the cross should be lost in the glory of the star, and you, little children of the Light - this is your mission, although some of you as yet understand it not. You have a mission to sorrowing humanity - to those who feel that the cross of sorrow is too heavy to be borne; to those who have not the strength to raise their eyes from the earth and to see the brightness of the Light Beyond.

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To these, dear children, I send you in faith and in trust. I ask you to take it as a direct injunction from the Most High that you shall search on either side for the sorrowful ones and shall, by sympathy and by teaching, show them that it is not God's will that the cross should remain a cross, but that it should be turned into the Star of Revelation - for once the understanding of Divine Love is there, sorrow is no more.

This, dear children, is the work of those who listen to the Voice of the Spirit while still cabined in the flesh, and this is the great work on which all your loved ones are concentrating their energies and their powers: To turn the cross of sorrow into the Star of illumination. And in that day all shall know within themselves that death as death is non-existent.

I pray, I entreat you to prepare yourselves still more. This work is of so sacred a character - it is under the direct supervision of Christ Himself, and it has to be undertaken with reverence, with watchfulness over self, with detachment from the things of the earth...

Is it too much to ask? Yet in asking, what is it that lies before you?... It is that sweet restfulness of the Spirit, that quiet content, that overwhelming sense of protection, that unity with the highest and the best within - the God within - which is seeking ever to contact with its Source - with the Great Spirit of Love, with the Peace that passeth all understanding...

Children, is it so much to ask when so much lies in front? Rather, do you not see that by holding back one grain of effort, one half thought, you are cutting yourselves off from that which is best of all - happiness, joy surpassing all your imagination could conjure up - joy and peace and understanding while in the physical world; and when the garment of the body is laid aside, that which I cannot touch upon because it is of the Spirit, of that holiness which is interpenetrating, surrounding everything in the Bright Realms above.

But these things have to be taken gently - gently, because minds untuned to joy, can only gather in unto themselves gradually that which is complete joy. And yet, as they advance into the spheres which lie beyond the earth plane, so illumination comes, and strength and power - the power to serve, as others have tried to serve you.

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Oh, my children, could I but give you one glimpse of the happiness which is mine when I can soothe your tired nerves, when I can distract you from this sorrow or from that annoyance - yes, it seems strange to you, but joy is there in such an unlimited degree that I cannot speak of it in the earth language.

And do you know why this is so? Because, as I have tried to tell you before, all service - great or small, big or unimportant - all service comes from the Great Giver, and as we are able to pass on even the tiniest help to others, so one more link is made between us and the Christ who gives and gives again.

It is impossible for you, still bound by the restrictions of physical thinking - it is impossible for you to get any real understanding of the happiness of the Love of the Master. But this shall come, and you shall feel not only His great and overwhelming love for you, but from those deep recesses within shall rise up love, if not to correspond, yet that deep love which, for the most part, is imprisoned in each one.

My children I must not keep you longer tonight because there are many waiting to speak. But I ask you to think a little over my words, to try and understand how precious is this earth's experience, with its sorrows, with its disappointments - and yet how brief as well. Could you once grasp its briefness then your tears would be stayed - that sense of loneliness, isolation and weariness would pass away - you would know that 'just for a little while' is physical life; and then, free from the bondage of sorrow, you step renewed - aye, recreated - into that perfect freedom where all that you wish to be, and to create, can have full scope. And you shall see for yourselves the wonderful weaving in, the purpose, the outline of the pattern and the part that you contributed - in ignorance but in faith.

Yes, then, dear children, you shall see for yourselves that God's ways are best, that His Love encircled you, that evil was kept far from you. And that you, just as little children, did the next thing because you were directed, and as little children the Good Shepherd shall gather you in, and all the sorrows of physical life shall - in that moment of illumination - be wiped out of your mind for ever, so far as sadness is concerned.

And now, my children, I will go, but first I will ask my child to tend to the fire which is rather trying. Margaret, you understand. Keep still all of you, I entreat, because once the links are destroyed it is difficult to build them up again. Only by the beneficent goodness of God and His Watchers

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- those watchers away out beyond your comprehension altogether - can I repair that which is in need.

Margaret, this should tell you that you are very close to the things of the Spirit, otherwise I could not hold the links, complete and intact, while you attend to my instructions. Fear not, my child, that which has been given so willingly during the years - that shall tell, that shall tell...

(Others then spoke...)

CAPT. C. MORGAN...

...It is Charlie, Mrs Moyes, and it must seem strange to you that I can come on such an evening as this. But I want you to know that I've changed considerably since those old days, and yet we cannot change quickly enough to come through without the necessary help, so don't think I did it on my own... It's Charlie Morgan, Dorrie, put it down - we don't like to be left out - and I can see that you will add the 'Captain' - we are very accurate on these occasions!

But, Mrs Moyes, there is something I want to say. It is rather a delicate matter, and yet our chances come so seldom that we have got to take advantage of them...

It's about my married life, and I think it may help others. Nobody likes to talk about the things that affect them most, and yet it will show you the wonderful Love of God which I did - and most people do - find so hard to grasp.

You know when my little girl (Mrs M.) passed over, I thought my heart was broken, and, more than that, I thought that God had turned His Face from me - that He had struck me almost on purpose. No one will ever know the hell I went through - that torture of loneliness, that hideous, hideous sense of loss. I idolised her, Mrs Moyes - it was real love, real love - and I thought that nothing could be so cruel as to snatch her from me...

And yet, when I came here do you know what I saw? I saw that she had never really loved me at all - not during the time she was on earth. Don't you see what it would have meant if I had gone first? I think it would have killed me...

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Do you understand how the Compassionate Father took her first and I never knew, never knew until I came here and found that she, seeing and knowing all my thoughts and feelings - unworthy though they may have been - that she, seeing these, had learnt to love me in the time between.

I want all those who have sorrowed in the same way - I want them to try and grasp the magnificent generosity of God in keeping back what would have hurt me most. In comparison, death is a trifle... when one loves, to find out, Mrs Moyes, that the love is missing on the other side - I say in comparison, death is a trifle.

I've nearly done. I want you to know that when we are free we are able to look at things so differently; and those we criticised when upon earth - we don't do it when we see and understand. Next time when you hear of anyone in my plight, just tell them my little story. It may not fit in - I hope it doesn't - but it will give some indication of the wider, higher Wisdom that controls our lives...

You thought I made a big hash of things after she went. I did, but not quite in the way you may have imagined. I would like the girls to know that weak and foolish and rebellious though I might have been, I was not evil in the sense that you regard evil, and as I should then as well.

That's all. Goodnight, I am sorry to have kept you but there was a purpose in my coming. Mother and father and Ethel send their love and yards of messages... You understand, don't you!...

(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, the evening has had to be rather curtailed because time in your world is not elastic, but still I think we can all say that happiness has been in our midst - certainly peace has been here in a very definite way indeed. I want you, in going your separate ways, to mark this day in your memory as a glad day - not a sad day in any sense there could be - but as a day which brought its own real joy because of the magnificent goodness of God.

I want you to visualise as you sit here, that tender, protecting, all-enveloping Love, and to realise whatever your lives may be, whatever tomorrow or the next day may hold, that you are entrenched in protections - for the little children of the Light have far to go, and it seems at times

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that they are out in a desert where there is no one to sympathise and understand.

But I say that by the power of God, the desert shall be turned into a garden, and there - instead of stones - shall arise the flowers of the Spirit; and you, my little ones in Christ, shall find to your great amazement that instead of picking your way over the rough boulders, you shall walk gently for fear of crushing the blossoms.

Yes, it sounds fantastic, I know, but greater miracles has the Lord worked among those who sought to serve Him. Keep your faith bright; be firm; let not this one or that turn you a hair's breadth from the path in front - and you shall not only emerge from the darkness of sadness and misunderstanding of the Divine purpose, but you shall go forward into the brilliance of the Sun of Revelation - and as you go, shall lead others out of the gloom into the sunlight as well.

But the dedication must be there; you must hand over your wills to God; you must put service first and you must bid self to retreat never to return again...

It sounds hard, but it can be done without too much hurt, if only you pray for guidance. Prayer is the greatest gift that the Father has to give because it opens the doors of the Spirit, and you - once you see the Light beyond - you forget weariness and pain and disillusionment, forget these pangs of the world, because you are lost in the joy of the Love of God.

I ask you to put still more effort into the climb; I ask you to ignore those deceptive voices of the valley, those entangling, seductive attractions of the world... They are but stabs of pain in the end; they cannot give you what your soul desires, because far, far more than you understand, you belong to God - you belong to the Strongest and not to that which is weak - you belong to Holiness Itself, and until the holiness within can find expression so will sorrow dog your steps...

Get free and know Christ in His ineffable love and goodness - know Him, and once the knowledge is there, peace will be yours and the world will knock in vain, because the Master has said to you, as He says to me: 'Come up higher and I will show you the things which are of God. Come up higher!' - And the call has to be answered.

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My children, I bless you in His Holy Name. I gather you in and bind you fast. I say you are the little children of the Light, fettered to the Great Spirit by unbreakable ties, and that His blessing is upon you now and for ever more - the blessing of understanding, the blessing of passing on that understanding to others, the blessing of the power to heal the broken-hearted and to show them the Love which fails not... In Christ's Name, I bless you all... Amen.



GOD'S LOVE TOWARDS HUMANITY AS A WHOLE.

By Zodiac.

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Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Father and Mother God, stretch out Thy Hands and bless Thy children who meet together tonight to do Thy will and to show others that where faith and trust hold first place nothing which is of the Spirit is denied. Grant that we may be able to retreat into the Silence, into that inner court where Holiness dwells - those recesses of the Spirit which are in each one.

O God, open the doors so that we may have the supreme happiness of knowing and understanding what we are and what is the purpose underlying the life of every one. Grant that Thy Peace may so close us in that we may be free indeed from physical things, that we may lay aside the mind of the body and with the mind of the Spirit penetrate, even if it be but a little, into the glories which Thou hast provided for those that love Thee.

Christ, we ask much and we ask often, but we know that ere we ask so Thou art waiting to give, and if we forget to ask then Thy Love prompts us so that we may have the blessing which Thou art longing to bestow...

With the gratitude which escapes the physical mind we thank Thee - Creator, Saviour - and we ask Thee to give us tonight more understanding of the great spiritual life which is running underneath the material; that we may see with the eyes of the spirit whither we go, and something of the beauties that line our path.

O Father, take away the sense of isolation; grant that sight may come, that blindness may be healed - even as Thou

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healed the blind in the days of old - and that we, steadfast in Thy love and protection, may gaze upon that which Thou hast laid out for all to see if they are willing to climb the steep hillside. Give us this sight, O God, give us this sight and hold us fast from all that would hinder and delay...

In Thy Name we bid sadness depart; in Thy glorious Name we open our arms to joy; and we know that this joy is a gift direct from Thee and that the Light shall shine not only over the lives of Thy little children gathered here, but on those who sit in darkness; and understanding shall come - that understanding which shall reveal Thy Love to all who seek... to all who seek the revelation shall come.

Help us to approach Thy Holiness with holiness; grant that we may contact with the things of the Spirit and make them our own this night and for ever more... Amen...

...My children, I ask you tonight once again to try and get into the Silence - into that sacred recess within - so that I may teach you a little more of the things which are of God. As we go on, of necessity, the preparation of heart and mind is more essential still. It is not one of those things that you can get used to in the sense that, having learnt your lesson in the past, it avails you for all time. No, with the things of the Spirit the learning goes on and on each evening, and could you see with your spiritual eyes you would know that the preparation is still more necessary as you climb.

In the past, dear children, because of your ignorance of these matters, we were allowed to do much - we were allowed to fill in the weak places, we were allowed to cover over little acts of thoughtlessness - little omissions - quite unintentional on your part. Grace was given to us to make that which was faulty as perfect as might be. But those days are past. You have got to face it, as you have faced other things as well - you have got to realise that as you climb, so your staff grows stronger, so the physical body, by the very reason of its training, is more fit to step forward alone - alone in the sense that you depend only on the Christ within.

Now, my children, I want you not to view this with any disquiet. I want you to take it as a definite sign of progress, but - and this is important - it means that you must be doubly on your guard, you must look to the right and to the left and, more than that, you must get into the

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habit of sending your mind on a pace or two in front. Just as a careful and diligent mother anticipates what her child might do if left unguarded, so you must be watchful - watchful in order that those who are out to wreck cannot use you.

My children, we have met together for some time now, and we know each other as friends and comrades - mostly in times of distress it is true. But you should know that the time of trouble is the testing of friendship - and the friend that has stood firm then, will not falter in his loyalty when the sunshine comes.

Tonight, after these few words, I lead you on to a still further contemplation of: 'God's Love Towards Humanity as a Whole'.

You have got to extricate yourselves from the physical way of regarding life; you have to take on that garment of universality in your attitude in relation to mankind as a whole. Christ preached to the world - God is the guardian of all. There are no sheep and goats in the Mind of Love - in the sense that one set are shut out and the other are gathered in.

You must remember that in reading the records of old, there was always the physical and spiritual meaning bound up in the words so used. It is not a contradiction to say that those who turn from God shut themselves off from the privileges of His Love, and still they are His. In the day when the physical body is laid aside, their punishment is in this wise: They see that by turning to that which was evil, they have isolated themselves from the great and glorious army which is fighting for right. They separate themselves and, in a sense, they are outside the Fold - not because the door is shut against them but because they lack the inclination to enter in.

My children, you have to reconcile these representations of the position of the Father with His designation of Love; you have to say to yourselves: 'But if the sheep and the goats are divided and the one is ruled outside, how about the Fatherhood of the Creator?' I have told you again and again that it is impossible to exaggerate the Love of God; it is impossible to exaggerate His mercy and understanding, and yet, as you should know, His words stand - but with the interpretation which Love gives to make all clear.

The isolation and the separation is the work of the individual. Christ seeks for the lost, for those who have strayed - aye, and for those who do

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not wish to be found. Love stretches out far and wide, and His magnificent patience never fails. Just as Christ declared on the Cross: 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do', so does the Divine Understanding extend to humanity on all planes. They know not what they do.

And, remember, they are the children of the King - they must come home at last. Carelessness, indifference - these are turned into effort and earnestness. The wish to strike others and to wound again and again - this, when they see the suffering which lies across the world, is turned into succour and help, and so on and so on. God takes the very evil in man's heart - not spurning him - but, as a Father, teaches him from the A.B.C., where his responsibility lies...

Oh, for ever dissociate yourselves from that most harmful attitude of alienation even from the vilest outcast. Think instead: 'This is my brother; this is my sister, and by prayer and by faith I will do what I can to shorten the journey so that the Light may come'.

- 'Father... they know not what they do'. In this you should read not only sympathy and forgiveness but also their chance and hope for the future. You should know that this lack of spiritual development - sad as it may be to witness - can and will be made good in the days to come. They sin against that which calls forth our greatest pity - they sin against that which is holy within.

Never forget that however degraded, as the world calls it, a man may be, within - imprisoned, crushed down - is that which is Divine: all holy, spotless, of God Himself. That treasure one day shall be uncovered, and the layers of materialism, of selfishness, and of perverted desire, shall fall off - slowly it is true - but they shall fall to the earth to which they belong, and that which is of the Spirit shall stand for all time...

Seek not in the books of your world for understanding of the Mind of God; seek it rather in the Silence of the Spirit, in that sacred and devotional time when you try to get into touch with the Father and those who have been gathered unto Him. Seek then for the inner wisdom which shall tell you that you are all one great family - and the tie cannot be ignored.

You must beware of many things; you must beware of the misrepresentation of those who would hinder you on the path. Put everything to the test of Truth as it harmonises with Love Divine, and if

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what this one or that tells you, fails to come up to that lofty standard - it is not for you.

In this sacred communion, you are allowed to get a little towards the heart of things - you are allowed to sense, if not to see, the meaning which underlies all that is going on. We who visit you thus, say to you: 'Enlarge the borders of your thinking more and more; take in not only your loved ones and their loved ones - not only that vast congregation which seeks to serve God - but take in all those who have never thought of serving anyone but self. They are the ones that need conversion, they are the ones who have got to be attached to Truth - to be taught and brought up as an army when the next generation comes along.

It is no use concentrating on the personal, on the chosen servants, or upon those who are classed as the 'fairly good'. You have got to realise that the Saviour is the Saviour of the so-called 'lost', of those who have, by their own acts, by their folly and lack of understanding, cut themselves off from the gifts of the Spirit and, as it were, have bolted the door behind them...

My children, I have spoken in rather sad tones it may seem to you, but I had a purpose, as you will know. It is to point out that element of danger which runs side by side with material or personal well-being, which has a way of limiting one's sympathy - in this way: It draws a line of demarcation between you and the so-called evil. It is difficult, I know. Instinctively you shrink from that which is obviously keyed to a lower vibration than yourself; it is purely instinctive, but it is not purely spiritual. Those who have sought to climb to God cannot climb alone - they have got to send back strength and courage to those who are lower down.

It is sweet to converse and to be in the company of those who are like-minded with yourself, but in so doing be on your guard against that separation from those who are as yet at the bottom of the hill.

There is before you all a problem which must be faced in God's good time; it is that of choosing the sympathetic companionship of those you love and making it exclusive - or in being willing to sacrifice a proportion of that companionship, and to throw open your hearts and minds to the majority. I know you shrink from the larger view. There is much that will be uncongenial, so you think. There will be obstacles of many kinds, and a sense of loneliness as well. But, dear friends - I speak to all who read these records, dear friends as well as my children here tonight - either on this plane or in the planes of the Spirit you have got to learn true brotherhood

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or true sisterhood; you have got to make yourselves one in sympathy with the least and the frailest of God's creatures...

My children, could you but see things as I see them, you would know that the joy of doing this would far outweigh any little reluctance there might be at first. You would see that in so acting, you drew a little closer round you the mantle which Christ has provided; you would understand that in a minute degree you had got His viewpoint of humanity - you had been able to echo: 'Father... they know not what they do - use me to teach and to help!'

It is impossible for you in your restricted lives just now to grasp very much of what I am trying to emphasise, but the time is coming when in thought you shall go back on this evening and it shall give you guidance and direction.

The great Heart of the Father aches for those who love Him not; the great Mind of Love seizes every means and uses every instrument to gather them in. Service on such a stupendous plan cannot be grasped, even by the most advanced of us here - as you would say - only do we get the fragments, to which we hold on with might and main - that comprehensive sympathy that can say and mean: 'The children of God are His children for ever more; and if they deny that Fatherhood, still the Father forgets not that they are His'.

And you and I, dear children, have got to work - we have got to work hard, and we have got to think spiritually; we have got to throw open those closed gates of love and let the strangers in; we have got to use our gifts and our talents in their service.

Love is not love, in the sense that we understand it, if it is bestowed only on those who love us. The wider, bigger, true conception of that wonderful gift is in sending out love to those who seem outside its range altogether. And it can be done by prayer. By prayer and dedication you can tear out those last roots of self; you can offer your mind, your will, and your energies, to the Father, saying from your very heart: 'Use me in Thy service, for I too once was outcast from Thee'.

It is difficult, I know, to take this broader view; it is impossible for those who love God to realise that once - ah, ages ago perhaps - but once they too knew not the Father, they did not understand, they dallied in the valley and were reluctant to climb. It is all a question of growth. Some

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have still much to learn - much to learn before the spirit within tells them to be free.

You, dear children, have found the Light - have entered, far more than you know, into the understanding of the gigantic purpose which is the reason for man being created - and because you are closer to the things of the Spirit, it is laid upon you to send back that Light to those who are as yet in darkness.

By slow stages we go on; we ask for this and we ask for that when we are young - they are the toys of the world. When we grow a little older, it is for the tools of the mind; and when we are a little older still, it is for the gifts of the Spirit. Just growth; and as we grow so the understanding comes, and as the understanding comes so within us rises that longing to serve, and as we serve so we get closer to the Master; and drawing our strength from Him, weariness is unknown, despondency a thing of the past - it is joy and freedom and power.

And to that time I direct your attention - to that glorious time when the physical mind troubles you no more - and you, armed with faith, with determination, and with sight - you in turn heal the blind, give strength to the weak, courage to the despairing, and hope to those who thought that all was lost...

Christ goes in front - we merely follow after. It is not so difficult as it sounds: Christ, and that long, long army, clothed in the beauty of the Spirit - they show us the way; and once our eyes are fixed on the Light, shadow and gloom are lost in the radiance, and each one - as they progress - is able to act as Light to those who are behind.

Don't you see, my children, that you cannot follow the great white road of Revelation without gaining something of the brightness yourselves? That brightness which shall call others on, which shall turn their eyes from the earth to that which lies in front - and that which, sooner or later, has got to be sought and found. The road to God goes on and on, and every one that has been created - whether they have taken upon themselves physical existence or not - each one, in time, lays down their tawdry-toys and, with the staff of faith, follows on...

My children, because we have been talking thus seriously, it does not mean that sadness is in the air. On the contrary, it is merely that I have got to prepare you for harder work still; it means that with the

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children of the Light, there is no resting in the pleasant fields, because while you rest the enemy creeps near. Only on that great white road are you safe, are you certain that all is well...

All is well in a truly marvellous way, and when the test shall come I can say with certainty that my children will not fail - they will choose the path that leads to God whether it be steep or not. And because they choose it, so shall the glories be revealed to them, and so shall they look back in thought and marvel that the world ever offered any attraction at all - the contrast will be so great. And thankfulness will follow that although they saw not the future, in faith they chose aright.

And now, my children, I will leave you. There are, as usual, many who wish to speak - but only those come now who have something to contribute towards the work. I do not want you to misunderstand this. It includes all those you love, but you will find more and more as these evenings go on, that we shall try to wean your thoughts from personal love to the Fount of Love - which will not lessen that devotion to your dear ones but will enlarge it beyond your present comprehension altogether.

Don't you understand that you cannot feel one flicker of love without getting it first from that which is Love Itself? But in focussing your mind on the great Mother and Father God, you shall know love which as yet has been quite outside your lives...

(Others then spoke...)

ARCHDEACON WILBERFORCE...

...It is Wilberforce. I am afraid you are a little disappointed that it is not one of your own, but I hope you will have patience with me tonight.

I want to speak to you a little about spiritual thinking and spiritual sight. It is a common error, into which many of us have fallen, to place the cultivation of the physical mind on a very high pinnacle; and while I do not wish in any way to underrate mental culture, I would like to show you that it is not of that supreme importance that many think.

You see, my friends, when we come over here, it doesn't help us very much - in this sense: That what we have managed to impress on the physical mind is not called into action. But make no mistake - the preparation, the concentration, the stilling of desire for relaxation, the

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forcing of the will during the early stages of study - all these things produce, in a wonderful way, gifts of the Spirit, but the knowledge so gained is very seldom called into action.

I want you to consider this closely: That in a spiritual world, physical conditions no longer obtain; and those subjects to which we devoted so much time and attention - well, they are presented to us in an entirely different form.

I will try and give you a little illustration. Take, for instance, any article in this room - a table or a chair. To the physical eyes and mind, that represents a definite object, but, free from the body, we look at it thus: I see, if I wish to, the wood and the covering, but that is entirely submerged in the history of the table or the chair. 'Yes,' you would say, 'an expert could tell you the history of that table as well' - but only in a physical sense. I am not talking of the wood or of the covering which is on the top, but I see right back down to the time when that wood was in a forest; I see the thoughts and the labours and the efforts of those who worked upon it.

Don't you see that physical thinking does not help us much when we come here? It is one of the first readjustments that has to be made. All our mental training, all our pride of intellect, avails us nothing; the eyes of the spirit are open, and we see in the construction of everything - the tiniest to the biggest - the thoughts, the heart-aches, the individual lives and, again, the lives which touched theirs - their hopes, their ambitions, and the bitterness of failure...

I speak tonight upon this subject because in it lies a warning - a warning not to think too highly of the power of the physical mind. Intellect is precious during the physical stages; by the individual it is regarded as a most useful tool and it brings with it a sense of confidence which, however, is short-lived once the body is laid aside...

Yet, remember my first point: That the effort, that the curbing of the longing for ease, that the harnessing of the energies, and the self-discipline which the cultivation of the mind brings into action - these are imperishable, and they are worked into the life of the spirit in a way precious indeed. But the facts so learnt avail us little when we come here.

Now you understand why it is that the so-called ignorant are able to come back and give messages of wisdom. By their lives - by a life of sacrifice, of that abnegation of self - they have prepared the ground in

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front; and when that imperfect physical mind is laid aside, they can see with the eyes of the spirit the wonders of God that are all around.

To those who have ever felt the barrier which lack of education erects, I say: Take care! The knowledge of the physical mind is as nothing compared to the wisdom which purity of heart can bring.

Here we find our level; here we see the magnificent justice of the Father, and we are shamed - shamed, because once we delighted in the power of our mental equipment. We are shamed by the simple - by those plodding, shut in, restricted, struggling souls who, had they known us on earth, would have regarded us with awe.

By these we are shamed, because we see, as we stand side by side with them, that greater wisdom of the Spirit is theirs, because of their greater courage in coming into the material world with so few tools to lighten the dreariness of their way.

This is but a thought I leave with you: I want you to apply it to everything. The expert, the connoisseur in this and in that - when they come here find that their knowledge avails them nothing - unless there was that discipline of self.

Take cheer, all of you, and pass on the cheer to others. Tell them that simple as their lives may be, it is in their power to have knowledge of the things of God in an unlimited degree - by patient plodding on, by patient plodding on. When they come here, so shall the gates of the higher wisdom be thrown open to them, and that strength of the spirit which they have been storing up, shall bring its reward at last - a reward which I cannot touch upon because it is of God.

One word more: My friends, you have all learnt to love me in the Spirit. I should like to underline that my love for you is, by God's grace, of that wider kind of which our leader spoke tonight; and, as you know, love is never stationary - it goes on growing and expanding, and you shall feel, if you wish, that the unity between us is complete.

And now I will give place to the ones you love so well. Thank you for your great attention and for the sympathy which has helped me enormously in conditions which are still a little strange... Goodnight...

MR GOODWIN...

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...It is Arthur, Jennie, but I feel all upside-down to come after such a message. I want you to understand that because I am out of the body it doesn't make it easier, in one way, to rise to such heights - but I thought it was awfully kind of him to put it so plainly. You know I always thought a lot of brains; in fact I hadn't much patience with stupid people - I thought they ought to pull themselves together. I was a bit hard - I see that now. As he said, it makes one feel ashamed when one comes here to see how puny our own brains were all the time...

Jennie, I am ever so happy tonight, although perhaps I don't express it. It is tremendous really - it is tremendous in this way: That although we are as children spiritually, many of us - it doesn't make any barrier, not in their manner or in the way they treat us. You see, they know it is only because we were a little slow and now we are trying to catch up...

I have been thinking such a lot just lately about all your lives and my life too when I was upon earth. It seems to me now that I overlooked so much - so much that was obvious - and there is a great responsibility on me because I didn't do more all round.

Oh, I know you say very nice things about me and I love to hear them, but they are not quite true. The other night... you know, Jennie, you do exaggerate; you say Arthur did this and Arthur did that, but I only half did it. Don't you see the difference? When you talk like that, your love makes me so happy, and yet I feel so ashamed, so little, so unworthy...

I know you understand, and I know all my dearly-loved friends here, that they understand too; and I'd like to say that because at times I did want to do the best I could, and to show God in a practical way that I loved Him - that because of this He has made all those half-done things look so nice. It is very kind but it pains me terribly all the same...

You know, Jennie, there is no whip that hurts so much as love. If I had gone to the Saviour and He had said: 'You meant all right but you didn't do it - now go and be punished' - I could have understood that, I should have thought it was just, because I should know it was only for a time.

But it wasn't like that, not a bit. When I came here you would have thought I was a hero, the fuss they made of me; a nice sort of hero I was too - I could cry even now to think of it. There was Leslie and mother and

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father and all of them, ready to give me a 'house warming' as we should say. I was made such a fuss of and they seemed so glad to see me. And then I wanted to know the judgement - I felt I couldn't rest - I wanted to push aside all the fuss and get my judgement first.

That's what I mean about Love hurting so. I found just love and no blame, and I was shown all those half-done things of mine, looking so nice, and they said to me: 'You see what you have made - now you can understand what it is possible to make!'... That was my judgement.

You know, Jennie, in coming back like this, I can't get away from the thought of God as a Master - it is altogether incomprehensible to me. I liked to be master in my own house, and it didn't occur to me that God would not be Master, in a masterful way, in His Heaven. You see how we mix things up? We are so silly - we think that God is like us with all our love for power and for controlling things; and yet, as was said the other night, when we come here we find that God lays His power and His authority aside to do things for us. It's beyond me altogether, and yet I am so glad I can put it into words tonight. It is so important that people should understand.

Do you think you could make the boys understand? It's so simple to me now - but I don't forget what I was. I wish you would try, because it is such a waste not knowing all the wonderful preparation and protection which surrounds us from the start until... you can't say the 'finish' because there is no finish - but surrounds us always... Goodnight...

(When all had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

Well, my children, tonight we have turned over another inch of the long furrow. In a spiritual sense we have been very, very busy, and even to your minds it seems that you have been given plenty to think about.

I want you, in gathering up the threads of the evening, to tie them with the beautiful ribbon of Promise - and to be certain that the ribbon of Promise is durable and that it will not fade.

And then to remember this: That when a little child wishes to be obedient, wishes to do as the parent directs, so that parent's love is thrown all round her, and he loves to think what will bring her the greatest happiness there could be...

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Your Father and my Father is just like that - only in such a wonderful way - and so tonight we end up on a note of complete assurance that the Father, being our Father, is gathering us in. And in those few words everything else is included. There is not one of you in the days to come - and, Dorrie, I remind you that this is only a repetition of what I have said before - not one of you shall not look back and say: 'This is far, far better than I could have wished for myself!'

Trim your lamps regularly and with care, and see that the light not only shines on those you love, but, as a beacon in a window throws its shaft out into the darkness of the world. And if it seems to you that it reaches but a pace or two beyond your little home, then I would remind you that a little light shining in darkness shows up a very long way indeed. And there are travellers, weary and heart-sick, who are looking for a light to guide them into Love.

So, dear children, trim your lamp with care, and see that the window it shines through is bright and clear as well, and you shall be surprised to find in the days to come that there were many - quite strangers to you - who looking up and catching its reflection, gained new strength to go on again...

In the heart of each one there is the longing to rise, and if circumstances or environment for a time suffocates that longing, yet take it for an unalterable fact that the day will come when that longing will be stronger than anything else.

Those who act as light to others, not only do they live under the radiance of the light themselves, but that light, growing brighter and brighter shall, in God's good time, provide just those conditions of love, harmony and peace on earth, which are being built up for you even now in the realms above...

My child is tired and I must close, but I want to leave on your minds one last thought, and that is: That only in serving can the spirit within find full expression, that only by loving can you contact with Love Divine, and that only by laying self aside can you enter into the peace which is of God.

God grant that the greater vision may come to all, and that His children may see in very truth that the care and the protection is all around.

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In Christ's Name I bless you, and I ask you in His Name to rededicate yourselves to this work, knowing that by giving up your wills to His, so shall you enter into the joy that fades not - the joy which shall compensate you for all that has been, and prepare you for the further working out of the Plan which He has laid down... Goodnight, my children.



CHRIST THE ADVOCATE, THE INTERCESSOR
BETWEEN MAN AND THE GOD WITHIN.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
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Sunday, 23rd November, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Divine Spirit of Love, pour down upon us tonight Thy strength. Grant that weariness may depart, that heartache and misunderstanding may be swept beyond the range of all, and that in their place Thy children may contact with certainty - with the assurance that all is well - and then, handing their lives over into Thy tender care, may be free from worry and from all that would retard them on the path.

O most gracious and understanding Saviour, grant that tonight we may be enabled to catch a glimpse of the possibilities that are within each one, and of that beautiful goal which lies in front calling us on and ever on. We ask that Thou wilt make all clear to Thy children - make all clear that when Thou art in command, of necessity, everything must be for the best, because where Light is, darkness is unknown, and where Love holds its sway misgiving has no place.

Father, bless us with strength to do and with that understanding which shall make the going forward a joy instead of a burden. Bless us with the peace, both of mind and heart, which allows us to contact with that which is holy and that which is pure - the peace which must be there before we can make ourselves one with the things that are Divine, the peace which is Thy direct gift to those who have served; and if they have suffered too, then is the gift of peace doubly their own.

Father, we thank Thee for all Thy good gifts, but above everything for Thy understanding of human needs, for Thy compassion over the little ones who are finding the road both hard and steep... Father, we thank Thee that Thou art able to

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lift the burden and to give them that inward content, which makes Thy meaning plain and the purpose of the stones so clear that gladness takes the place of grieving and praise that of repining...

For Thy understanding, O Father, we thank Thee again and again; and we know that what Love could think of, Thou hast thought for us, and what Thy Father-heart would wish to bestow - that those gifts are waiting for the appointed time, which is the best time for Thy children in every sense there could be... Father, we thank Thee...

...My children, I ask you once more for your complete attention, for in the first place my child starts tired tonight, and secondly, there has been pain at the heart of some, which makes it a little difficult to proceed. Now, I want you all to take both the weariness and the sadness and to lay it at the Feet of Christ, and to be certain that in so doing you are not only obeying His request, but also you are healing and restoring yourselves.

My children, if you will do this I can promise you, in the Name of Love, that both shall be made good - the wounds shall be healed and the strength replenished, so that we finish stronger than we began.

My children, I have much to say to you this evening, and I want you to mark off this sacred communion as a night when self was laid aside - as one of those occasions when we learnt together a little more of the things which are of God.

Now, there have been some of my children - I am not referring to you here because I have trained you carefully, so far as lay in my power - but some of my children, those who read these records, who have queried in their minds the advisability of withdrawing the veil from those incidents which were of an intimate and truly private character.

To those I speak tonight, and I tell them quite frankly that on this side 'reserve' in the sense that they understand reserve, is unknown. I tell them that when they come here they will go back over the past - and with eagerness - will seek among their hidden resources to find something that may help another. And how can you help others unless you have had similar experiences? Sympathy is but half expressed when it has not knowledge behind it.

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I say that we over here have the bigger, wider view of sympathy, and we know that even the most sacred thoughts - those which concern that inner citadel of feeling and of true emotion - we know that these are precious tools which can be used to lighten another's sorrow and distress.

Yes, you must all understand this clearly: That reserve, the isolating of the individual self, the covering up of the feelings which matter most, the shutting yourself into the turret of self-possession - in the sense that what is within is your own - these things, when the body is laid aside, are seen for what they are...

My children, it is difficult to get the Christ view on such matters. In your world it is considered not only unwise but the worst possible taste to, as you say, 'wear your heart on your sleeve'; and so reserve over the things that really matter has come to be regarded as a virtue which must be cultivated and tended carefully.

It is not necessary for me to say that those who are still children in a spiritual sense - that these are not included in my remarks tonight. They, like little children, talk of all that is within their minds and hearts; and while this frankness has its good points and bad, they are not the ones to whom you would go over the desperate tragedies of life, because as yet they know them not.

We who are free, we are able to look into the hearts and minds of many - many who are hungry for that word of understanding which would turn the earth from a wilderness into a home. Seeing and entering into this terrible sense of loneliness, cannot you understand that our most intimate thoughts and emotions are at their disposal, so that we can say and demonstrate: 'Let me comfort you for I understand!'

I speak to many, and you, my little children, are not guiltless in this respect. You hoard up love as though it were something which must be kept far, far from the eyes of those who know you best - and herein lies a great responsibility which you have never considered in the Christ way, as yet.

Yes, in regard to love there are misers also - misers in this sense: That what they have they hold and, moreover, they hide that which they

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possess so that the stranger or the friend may not find out its resting place...

Children, when you come here, you will find that love is the greatest force there is; indeed, I would say it is the only force in the Realms of the Spirit that can bring you, or bring anyone, closer to the things which are of God.

Many, when they are free from the body, find that while on earth - sometimes with the best motive there could be - they shut love behind locked doors and, for a time, the key is lost. You cannot give out love on the impulse of the moment when you see what love works. No, like all things, the capacity for giving it out is a matter of growth - slow growth in some cases as well. Don't you see then the necessity for breaking down these barriers - barriers invented by the false conceptions of the physical mind - to break these down and to pour out love, not only on those who love you, but on the stranger without the gate?

Yes, there are many excuses and many explanations forthcoming in regard to the shutting up of love: Pride, which you call reserve; a sense of self-preservation; that sensitiveness as to what others may think; the diffidence that love may not be returned - and so on and so on. And what do they all amount to? Tear off the ornamental covering and be frank - is it not self underneath, self and nothing less?...

When you come here, dear children, as I said before, if you have not loosened the door while upon earth, you will find it very difficult indeed to wrench it open then. And what will you do when you find yourselves in conditions of love and yours has not yet learnt to walk alone?

I entreat you, not only for the world's sake but still more so for your own sake - I entreat you to pour out love. One of the most usual forms of anguish which faces the newly-released soul, is in looking back over physical existence and seeing those omissions - the omission of the little love-word at the right time, the taking it for granted that the other knew, the satisfying of the conscience by saying: 'They understand and I need not put it into words'. When we come here great, great is our anguish to see the effects of these omissions. Nothing can undo the past in that sense; the hungry soul went on its way unrejoicing; the tired mind worked on without the balm that was at hand; the tears were not stayed although they were shed in secret - not stayed because that which we had to give, we withheld.

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My children, I told you once before that these things have got to be faced and have got to be reckoned with. It is my privilege tonight to give you the larger vision of your responsibilities in regard to love and the love which belongs to others. In family life it is the same; in the wider circle of your friends and acquaintances it is doubly applicable - and also it concerns those whom you meet in every-day life...

Send out love. Send out sympathy. Send out understanding. And what does it matter if, at the time, you seem to receive it not? Your part is to give; and you cannot feel one pulsation of real love without the Father pouring down upon you love in an amazing way. Never let it be said again amongst you: 'I do not like them because they do not like me' - that is beside the point altogether. You are told - for the sake of the emancipation of the spirit which is within - you are told to pour out love, so that the power which love brings may be yours for ever more.

And then, dear children, I would touch upon another point which has arisen in the minds of some; and that is how we regard sin. I must use this word because it expresses to your mind something which nothing else can...

First of all, we will lay aside the earth conception of things, and try - so far as we are able - to take what the Master taught Himself.

You will remember how He treated the sinners who crossed His path during His earthly sojourn. You will remember that Christ being God, and God being Love, said to one who had called down upon herself the most drastic judgment of the world - how He said to her: 'Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more.'

I use this illustration because, still today, the sins of the flesh are regarded with the greatest abhorrence and are treated in the most pitiless manner that can be imagined... It is necessary to speak of these things, dear children, although you rather wince under it; but I am teaching you - I am trying to prepare your minds for the greater wider understanding which must be the possession of the soaring soul.

On earth today, and right back through the generations, sin has been divided under two headings primarily - of course many more in detail - but those sins which are permissible and those which are not.

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In the world of work there are methods, there are transactions, which come under that very comprehensive misnomer of 'business'; and under that deceptive heading much can be done which, if it were in any other walk of life, would be treated as it deserved. Stealing is punished in a drastic manner when it is discovered; as with stealing, cheating also finds no mercy, but you all know that these things go on to an extensive degree in those same big transactions to which I have referred. You see where I am trying to lead you in thought? On earth the sins which are found out are the sins which matter, the sins which can be covered over in one way or another, are the permissible ones and are ignored.

In the Realms of the Spirit, dear children, names have no weight at all; actions not so much as you might think. But motives, thoughts - these are the things that stand - and I tell you tonight that you cannot think one destructive thought in regard to another without injury to yourself. You cannot evade the responsibilities that are attached to the Divinity which is within. And when you come here you will see - as I see things from my long experience - you will see, that after all, the root of so-called 'sin' - in fact the only sin there is - is selfishness and want of consideration for others. This I know has been expressed by thoughtful people on earth, but they do not understand what is implied by that word 'selfishness' or lack of consideration for others.

You see, dear children, that in considering so vast a subject as that which you call sin, we are, in the end, brought back again to that most obstinate enemy of the spirit: love of self. And I want you to understand in its magnitude that whatever is done - under what name the world likes to give it I care not - but whatever is done that injures another, is sin against the spirit within in a manner impossible to explain. I put it in that way because the person so injured is immediately compensated by the Saviour, but when the offender comes here, he will have to reckon with a double burden: The burden of inflicting a hurt on another, and that far greater burden - the damage to the real self - the retrograde step which affects that which is Divine within.

Here it is, dear children, that Christ acts as the advocate, as the intercessor between man and his God. But rid yourselves for ever of that conception of Christ interceding for you to some Great Spirit - all-Powerful, all-Mighty - isolated from you by His very Divinity and Holiness.

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Christ indeed is the intercessor, the advocate between man and his God - but it is between that man and the God which is within...

Many who come here find these heavy burdens upon their shoulders which must be carried until the effect of them can be overcome. They turn to Christ for help against themselves - clinging to Him as a man clings to a raft in a big and treacherous ocean - knowing that before the judge of their better self, they have nothing to say in extenuation. Then it is that the Saviour - being the Saviour - intercedes, and taking upon Himself the larger part of the anguish, raises the suffering soul and gives him strength to fight and to get free...

Cannot you see the importance of telling the world what it is constructing? Cannot you see why Christ told you to seek to love them that hate you - to bless and not to curse? In those words many have read protection for the unworthy - but the Divine Mind of Love sought to protect the individual, knowing that it is impossible to strike another without bringing unto himself the double burden which has to be worked out.

These burdens, dear children, take many forms. Some there are who have so bound themselves with evil that their sufferings are intense. You speak of a 'hell of fire' - yes, even as this, is the torture of trying to get free from that which man has, by his folly and weakness, attracted unto himself.

The gospel of Love which we have been trying to impress upon humanity for so long is - in reality, in its simple truth - the gospel of protection. When you hear again of this one or that 'sinning', remember my words - remember that there is the earth view of sin which, in the main, is totally opposite to the spiritual view as expressed by Christ.

Self is the enemy which all have to overcome, and the greatest sins against the spirit within are those which, ignoring the claims of others, puts self above all else. What those sins may be in detail is no concern of yours or mine because of the greater view. We look into the heart of things and we see there the motive, the thought, the underlying influence which brought out the weakness, or that far more dangerous spear of action.

You can see for yourselves that there are certain sins which are the result of undevelopment in a spiritual sense. As children they do that which is to their own disadvantage, and as children they neglect to do that

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which the elder ones would as a matter of course. These are ranked quite differently from the sins of commission which are done with a knowledge of good and evil. When those who have the gifts of the mind, the gifts of environment and opportunity - when these turn from light to darkness, pitiable indeed is their plight.

But remember, God does not condemn; the condemnation of that greater, wiser self, which through all the mazes of experience, all those labyrinths of the physical mind, keeps pure and clear and free, because it is of God...

My children, there are other things on which I should like to speak, and I feel tonight that you would rather I went on a little, and so I ask you to consider this - and you will find in all my remarks this evening that there is a sequence, that the connecting link is there.

It is in regard to the acquirement of spirituality. Many people are puzzled over this. There are some - a large number - who have an idea that the process of elimination is the best. They think that by cutting themselves off from the world and the things of the world in as complete a measure as possible, that, as a natural result, spirituality will be theirs. But it does not follow always that the gain brought about by elimination is as great as was expected...

Do not confuse asceticism with spirituality. An ascetic may be a man of God, but his spirituality is a far finer thing than that. I touch upon this tonight because there are many who wish to love God with all their hearts and mind, who are fearful of attaching to themselves the things of the world - even if these things are good in themselves. Indeed they feel - and they act up to that feeling - that only by detaching themselves from everything that represents joy, can they follow in the footsteps of the Master.

Christ, you must remember, came to earth to demonstrate to man that God was in their midst, bearing their burdens, able to understand what physical existence and its trials represented. But because Christ laid personal happiness aside, it does not mean that He expects, or even wishes, His little children to do likewise.

No, Christ the Saviour, Father, King, loves to bestow upon His little ones gifts of all kinds. And so I wish you to understand that your teaching

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has been - and always will be - to take the things of the world and to spiritualise them by your love for God.

When you come here, you will find that there is nothing in physical life which has not its rightful place. And those who have ruled out so much, banishing it under the heading of evil, they will find that although their wish for self-sacrifice has brought them much, their experience is not complete. Free from the body, they go back among the haunts of man and, in their wiser understanding, seek to raise that which is of a low level so that it may release the spirituality which lies hidden - sometimes suffocated or buried - but hidden in everything created by God.

I want you then, my children, to take it from me that God, in creating the human mind, in equipping the human mind with certain longings and desires, did not expect that these should be regarded as anything but gifts which a loving Father delights to bestow. There is nothing in the physical world which has not its spiritual counterpart, and you will find as you go on that, although it may cost effort and thought - and perhaps suffering - yet that which is contained within human life can, and must, be brought up to the spiritual standard which God intended...

The process of elimination is favoured by many, but I say: Be more courageous, take the more difficult course - and in going over that which is within your mind, spiritualise it by the very love for God which is in your heart.

Never forget, dear children, that man's ways have got to be brought into harmony with God's ways in the end, and until that unity of purpose and of thought is there, so suffering must come - but it is not the Divine will; Love would that it were possible to make that harmony complete at once...

Slowly we go on but we are building every minute. Be not disconcerted if it seems at times that evil has the power to destroy. Far, far outweighing that is the force of Love - God's love - and, little ones, you should know that because God is in command, all must be well in the end.

Just do your part in thought and in action, and give out from yourselves that which is a gift from the Most High - love, that understanding love for which humanity today stands so desperately in need - the love and understanding which shall banish loneliness and

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isolation, and bring into new life and strength those hidden resources of love which lie within each one, only waiting for the greater love to call it forth...

My children, you have done well this evening. You have helped me by your close attention, and I give a special word of commendation to my little secretary for the part she has taken. Dorrie, trust your leader more, and be certain, my child, that I have you safe in my care and that the Arms of Love are around you now and for ever. The best is for my children and not the second best - remember that... And now I will go...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I think we can say with absolute sincerity that we finish stronger than we began, and I want you all, when you part tonight, to take with you this thought into the sleep state: 'I am going to be healed of all that tries to hurt and wound'. Say that, dear children, and the healing of God shall be there, and we will watch ever, ever more closely still to keep from you these stray darts of evil...

There is before you all, happiness - in every sense there could be - inasmuch as now you are free from the trivial forms of desire. There shall come to you that inward satisfaction which is your right by service - not the satisfaction of self, but the satisfaction which comes from that complete surrender of self... You are satisfied in Him.

Yes, the days may have been dark and the storms many and violent, but Christ has said: 'Peace, be still' - and you shall find, dear children, that the road to God, steep and dangerous to comfort though it may have been - that that road, instead of growing less lovely as you proceed, shall have a radiance all its own. And when the Light shines, not only in front but on either side as well, you will be able to forget the gloom you have left behind.

I have said before that, now and again, you must go through the dark tunnel of experience, but each time it leads you farther on - higher up the mountain - and as you emerge into that arresting beauty of the Spirit, so you shall look down the side, if you wish, but never through the darkness from which you have come...

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You see, dear children, that had you wings you could have flown from the depth to the height; but being mortal - being in the human physical body - you had to take the longer way round, and sometimes it seemed that you burrowed through rock itself. But even so the journey was ever upward, higher and higher still, and with each step strength of the Spirit was made your own...

Keep on in faith. The Master has called and you have answered. The watchers are around you night and day, and you are protected from everything that could harm - save from the straying thoughts of the mind of the body - apart from that, you are secure. And the time shall come when that last drag shall be removed, and then - stepping forward in liberty - you will be able to give your undivided attention to helping those who are lower down...

My children, this evening is one of our good evenings because, taking that which was faulty, the Mind of Love turned it into that which was strong, so that we might go on unchecked, unhindered by anything. We have worked out of sorrow into content - if not into that brighter and more glorious thing called joy; out of weariness into rest - that rest which, closing in the spirit, blocks out the world, its worries and its trials - that sweet serenity which, contacting with holy things, brings to the soul the quietude and the peace which is of God...

Rest then, my children, and with the morrow take up your lives again with new hope, stronger purpose, and certainty of success over self in the end - when, donning the beautiful robes of selflessness, you are at once allied to those in the Spirit - those whom you long to gather to your side because they remind you a little of the Saviour, of the Good Shepherd - of He who sought until He found, and finding, drew the 'lost' one close unto Himself, out of the storms of life...

The blessing of the Holy Father is upon you
The gifts of the Spirit have been shown to you
With that generosity which is Divine
And Love is closing you in...

The blessing is all around, and you, the little children of the Light, shall find your chief joy in passing on the three-fold blessing to others and in showing that where faith abounds nothing is denied...

Christ the Advocate, the Intercessor
Between Man and the God Within

Goodnight, my little ones. God keep you in the brightness of His Face, and may you rest on His strength during the days which are to come... Amen.



JUDAS.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 30th November, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Father of infinite mercy, we bring our small gifts to lay before Thee tonight, knowing that Thou wilt find them acceptable and that we, by so offering up that little which is in our hearts and minds, are doing what Thou hast directed and what Thy Love ever asks.

O Saviour Christ, lift us up in thought above the busy world. Grant that the memory of irritations, of little things going awry, may fall from us and that we - in our new-found liberty - may be able to contact with that which is offered so freely.

Father, Thou knowest what is in the heart and mind of each one - those longings to rise, those feelings of sadness over so-called failure, that mixture of determination and of weariness which all Thy children have experienced in turn...

Out of Thy understanding Love comes healing, comes new courage, comes confirmed resolution - and so once more we thank Thee for all Thy good gifts, for Thy tender care which brings us through again and again out of the gloom into the sunlight of Thy sweet Presence. Give us tonight of the wisdom of the Spirit and grant that each one may be conscious of the blessing which is upon them. We ask it for Christ's sake... Amen...

...Good evening, my children, and it should not be necessary for me to say that once more I come into your midst in this way with joy - with joy and deep, deep gratitude to God.

Judas

There must come to you sometimes a thought as to the why and the wherefore that I sought you out, and, having sought and found, linked myself with you and the lives which surround your own.

My children, these queries are very natural; they spring not from curiosity in this case but from tenderness - from the longing to know more about the stranger in your midst - and so tonight I just refer to it in passing, to assure you that none of these thoughts which pass through your mind are ignored or are lightly valued by me.

It is sufficient to say that I am a servant of my Master, Christ, and because I long to be a little more like Him, in my small way, I seek to imitate that which He has laid down as the only life that can be - the life of gathering in those who, as yet, are out in the darkness of misunderstanding...

It is not necessary for you or for anyone to try and put me in a place of eminence or of importance - these things, to those who are in the Spirit, are more worthless than a grain of sand. Over here power and influence, as the world regards power and influence, are as naught - indeed we shun them because we see how little they resemble He whom you call God. The only thing that matters is to try and follow, halting and perhaps ineffectively, in the footsteps of the Master.

All the tools that the world could give, or any of the lower spheres on our side, are useless - useless in every sense there could be. One thing alone is required and that is love, in which, of necessity, is included faith - faith, love; love, faith - and you cannot have the one without the other when you come here.

My children, I know that love often prompts you to make my name, or perhaps the personality which that name represents - to make that personality seem of some importance; but the greatest description you could give of me is to say that: 'Zodiac is a humble follower of the Master; who lives but to do His will and whose love is thrown over humanity as a whole, because the children of the earth are the children of the King.'

And now we will get away from the personal side although I know your love thoughts - oh, so well. I know you long for me to go into the details of my life upon earth and my long experience since I have been free from the body. These thoughts, because they are an outward demonstration of an inward affection - which goes much deeper than you

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can understand - these thoughts are treasured by me, but with larger vision I see God's Plan, and I know that only by the effacement of self can He use me, or anyone, as a tool to work out His will. So, dear children, in thinking things over, remember the love which I have for you all, and remember that we are linked together by ties inseparable for all Eternity...

Tonight we will go a step further in our thinking of last week, and I want you, so far as you are able, to get another glimpse of what was in the Mind of the Divine in those days which immediately preceded the death of His physical body.

In particular, dear children, I would speak to you about that character which is so closely allied with the so-called tragedy of the Crucifixion - I mean he who was called Judas.

Now, right down the ages this man, this individual, this soul, has been held up in contempt, aye, in hatred, even by those who proclaim themselves followers of Christ...

I am going to speak quite plainly, and there will be some, of necessity, who will query my authority for this pronouncement. In time to come, either in the physical world or in one of many spheres beyond, they too will see with the eyes of the Spirit and will long to teach others the same.

My children, you have been accustomed to look at things from the standpoint of the world, and the man who betrays another - moreover One so kind - naturally rouses in you those depths of feeling which bring forth the hot words of condemnation, which are kept alive so long as the memory remains.

First of all, you have to remember that although Judas betrayed Our Lord and Master, that he was, and is, a child of God. There is no crime that anyone can commit that severs that close connection - it is the Father and His child.

And it was because Christ saw the anguish of repentance and how that weakness - which took the form of betrayal - would retard the spiritual progress of the soul concerned, that He said: 'It had been good for that man if he had not been born'.

Judas

There are some who have read into these words a condemnation so severe that, practically, Judas' case was hopeless - but I ask you to consider things as they relate to the Mind of Love.

Christ, seeing what lay in store - the torture of remorse when the body had been laid aside and spiritual vision was there - said: 'Good were it for that man if he had never been born' - compassion, not condemnation, my children.

I suppose it would surprise some if I told them that after that most unhappy man had taken the law into his own hands, as you would say, Christ ministered unto him and tried to lift him out of his wretchedness.

Oh, you have got to alter your conception of that which is Perfection. How can you reconcile Unlimited Love with the spurning of anyone, even of he who had betrayed Him? My children, even in the hearts and minds of men and women, forgiveness comes welling up to those who have injured them most - they feel compassion for them over the evil they have done. Unconsciously, the spirit within views things as they are - it senses, in the treacherous blow, that most dreadful damage to the struggling soul of the offender, and out of their hidden resources of feeling, pity rises and takes the place of blame...

If it is possible for us - so limited in our understanding, so puny, so undeveloped spiritually - can you not imagine that Christ would inevitably feel compassion because one, out of his folly and his weakness, had listened to the voice of evil and turned from that which was Love Itself?

Oh, my children, do not think I underrate that most terrible deed. I know, because I saw the suffering of the one concerned, I saw that first flicker of repentance, that despair of self which caused him to put an end to the mind and the body which he regarded as a tempter. I, seeing and knowing the anguish of the soul which had to emancipate itself from so much that was antagonistic to God, I underrate it not.

But I say to you all: Teach the gospel which Christ Himself taught. How many times are we to forgive?... You know the answer. Is it possible then that Christ, the Great Example of what must be and shall be in the end - that He could be held by self in the sense that He would wreak punishment on the one who had struck Him?

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My children, Christ, before He ascended into Heaven - as your records put it - ministered to the suffering soul of Judas the betrayer. And it is with joy and thankfulness that I can say that long since he has been gathered into Love and has worked for the Master, seeking only to do His will...

You see, there are many readjustments to be made. It is not possible, dear children, for anyone who had ever seen or heard the Saviour, to be alienated from Him for long. No - Love, so stupendous, called out the love of others even though that love may have been crushed down under vices and weaknesses innumerable. Those who had heard the Call, who had been privileged to look into the eyes of the Christ, they were bound - bound to answer and to respond.

I want you to think it over and, moreover, to enlarge your borders of thought - in this way: There are many in the world today who have heard the Call of Love, but were too busy to respond. There are others who listened for a while and then the earth claimed them and the God of Love was displaced by the god of self.

Children, cannot you understand that during the physical life, there are few who, if the Saviour said: 'There is one who will betray me' - few who would not be forced to answer: 'Is it I?' - and that is the thought I want to leave with you tonight...

You cannot turn from God - after having heard the Voice of Love - without putting Christ on the Cross again; you cannot listen to evil without betraying that which is Divine within; and at some time or another during the life of every one, the accusation of self rises in the mind: 'Is it I?' - and we cannot be too careful. The only safeguard for each one, is their dependence upon Christ, that constant reiteration of the simple phrase: 'Take me and make me as Thou wilt.'

Oh, my children, don't you see in my words tonight the glorious Love for all? Don't you see that Christ, by His largeness and His unequalled sympathy and understanding, once more sets the example - the example of forgiveness? And never lived there yet a man or woman who had to forgive a tithe of what Our Lord forgave so freely during His brief earthly experience.

Therefore, I can say to you all: Little children love one another and forgive and forgive again. Each time you can bring your physical mind into

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harmony with the Father, so is the Father able to raise you up in thought and in action also - and so, as with everything, you give but you take a hundredfold in return.

Christ sends out this message to the world: 'Little children, love one another - forgive and forget'. And with the message goes forth the balm of healing, and the memory of what has been sinks back into the past; in its place rising up that sense of responsibility to this one and to that, for the linking of humanity is intact - you are brother to brother and sister to sister and children of the King for ever and for ever...

Now, my children, I will leave you for a little while. I want you as always, to give out of your love and sympathy, and not only to meet your loved ones as they gather here, but in thought to cross the bridge and to walk back with them into your own conditions. Each time you can focus your thoughts on that which is of God, so you narrow the space in between; and there are many who - quite unconsciously - live and have their being in the Spirit World now, although they are still cabined in the temple of the flesh...

(Others then spoke...)

GENERAL BOOTH...

...My dear sisters and brothers - I speak to all who read these records - and I ask you to do your utmost to spread the gospel of Unlimited Love. I ask you to put aside your preconceived ideas and to fight for Perfection, and to be certain that you shall be inspired by those who have seen the Truth. The earth has suffered long enough from ignorance and from the imagination of man. It is time - it is God's good time - that the Light should come; and tonight I have been allowed to once more send a message across to the world - to ask those who have any love for God in their hearts to strike for Truth, and never to rest until the Truth is forced on the mind of humanity.

There have been those who have tried to show Christ to suffering souls. They have pointed Him out as the sacrifice for all - as One who took upon Himself the burdens and the cares and the pains of His children; and these, finding solace in the strength which is of Him, have gained courage to go on again. But I, in looking round, I see this one great arresting fact: That even the nearest in thought and in love to the Saviour never understood His Love.

Judas

Oh, broadcast it far and wide - say that I, once among them, working for the outcast, seeking and forcing those in who preferred the gutter - that I have come back to tell them that even in the gutter itself is the Love of God all around them...

Sinners are called to repentance. How often have I used that phrase myself! I have said: 'Come and be saved' - but I knew not that even though they laughed me to scorn, Christ had the spirit of each one safe in His tender care.

Yes, we have got a lot to learn. We preach Christ when we are in the body, as represented to us by the mind which is hemmed in and restricted by the flesh. Over here, we see the Truth, and we know that all unconsciously - God knows that - that all unconsciously we misrepresented that which is Love Divine...

I speak tonight with so much thankfulness in my heart that there are those who, with firmness and with courage, have called to the populace - have called to it to answer to the Voice of Christ within. On such as these the power and the blessing rests; and we on our side are working and straining every effort that you could imagine - we are doing our part to gather the sheep into the one Great Fold. And each time there are those who have sufficient faith to call above the roar of the world: 'Christ wants you!' - so they are blessed of the Lord.

It is Booth, and you can understand the deep feeling with which I speak, you can understand that this is of vital importance to me, as to all those with the greater sight. Never shall we cease to work, and never shall we relax our efforts and, in time - God be praised - I see the Light shall shine on those who sit in darkness... The Light shall shine and they shall raise their eyes to the Father and all will then be well.

Once having met that most beautiful and understanding glance, they will not rest until that which was faulty has been made good. And on these we concentrate our thoughts, our prayers, our service. I want you to know there is not one whom you have ever tried to influence for good that has not been helped by us. And if they hesitated on the way still, as I said before, the Love is closing them in, and it is the Love which will never let them go.

Goodnight, my friends...

Judas

(When all had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, I have decided to bring the evening to a close because what you have heard I want to linger in your minds, and the physical mind has only a certain capacity and the danger in allowing too many messages is that one will crowd out the other.

Each has its place in your consideration - in your tender regard - and each one who comes adds just that little more to the acquirement of the knowledge of the things of God, which is so essential for humanity as well as for my children and their many loved ones all around.

In the future, dear children, we shall have to enlarge our borders and we shall have to strike out in one direction and another, but I want you to have perfect confidence in those who are directing and guarding your lives. I want you to be certain that each fresh experiment will be justified up to the hilt by what will follow... Yes, I feel in your minds that this thought brings a sense of distress and of disturbance, and I wish to despatch both of these at once - they are a hindrance to the work and the shadows make full use of the opportunity so provided.

Dorrie, I speak to you, my dear little one, and I tell you that God has laid upon you certain obligations in regard to this work which, if faithfully carried out, shall bring you into the happiness which fades not. You are blessed of God in service.

Margaret, your part will increase and not decrease. You have chosen, in the spirit, the part of giving also, and because of that you are secure for ever more. There is happiness, real happiness waiting for the appointed time - happiness which you can take because it has been earned by service.

To the rest of my children I speak with most loving understanding: I tell them that because they have been faithful in little things, God will give into their hands those which are big, in a spiritual sense.

I make special reference to Ralph and Agnes, and I ask them to be certain that in working under the inspiration of the Spirit, they shall enter into the peace which is of God Himself...

Judas

Annie, have no fear. Each gives according to their capacity, and sometimes those who would give most are asked, apparently, to give the least. Yet to each one who has given of their thought, of their love to this work, I send a direct personal message - I tell them to be good cheer. The work goes on apace, and that which they have built up in faith - although it seemed in blindness - that shall stand and be used by God in a way I am not allowed to state at the moment - but in a way which shall exceed their greatest expectations - because when Love gives it gives lavishly - and when the children answer to the Voice of the Spirit they are opening unto themselves a vista of glories upon glories which will never be closed to them again...

My children, there is one last word. It is, as you will think, so often I have repeated it - it is just that of preparation and re-dedication again and again. Just offer up your hearts and your wills to the Master - say to yourself, not only night and morning, but say to yourself each free second of the day: 'I belong to Christ'. This, dear children, shall have the effect of destroying that sense of isolation which besets all those who wish to climb: 'I belong to Christ'.

Christ - closer than breath; of you; in you, without Whom your existence could not last a second: 'I belong to Christ, and with Him all is wonderfully well!'



SUICIDE.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 7th December, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Father of Infinite Love, we gather together once more in faith, in hope and in response to the promise that Thou hast made - that it only needs for Thy children to ask to receive, and that Thy power and guidance and protection is always at hand to succour and relieve.

O Christ, we thank Thee ever and ever again - thank Thee that Thou art so understanding, so far-seeing, so tender beyond expression. We take of Thy love with great gratitude and with the wish in heart and mind to do better in the days to come.

And we know that because Thou art our God, our Saviour and our Father, forgiveness between us and Thee is a word that has no meaning for we are Thy children, and as Thy children we throw ourselves again and again upon Thy most compassionate Love; and thus healed, comforted, restored, we take up our life once more hoping that within ourselves the understanding may come to see in the storm victory over self, and that the darkness does but screen the Light until we are able to look into that Light and not turn aside...

Send down Thy power, O God, and grant that each one may contribute to the best of their ability, so that the evening may be carried through without any restraint and without the hampering ropes of sad thoughts which ever and ever again the shadows use to hinder us on our quest...

Most gracious Father, we are waiting for Thy word, waiting for the peace to descend upon us, waiting for the strength to be forthcoming so that Thy Will may be done on earth as it is in heaven...

Suicide

...My children, I shall want your best attention tonight to help me through, and I shall want you to throw off as much sympathy as you can towards my child in order that the weakness on the physical side may be overcome. As you have been told before, I do not work directly against nature, although the power is mine to do so if I would. But such things - when they are done - are not pleasing to the Father, and so for ever are ruled out of these evenings, when we meet together to learn a little more about Him and His loving thoughts.

You must know, all of you, that physical life presents many problems which have never been solved by the mind of man. Things are done as a matter of course, and very few seek to dig down under the surface to find the why and the wherefore of their actions.

You see, dear children, taking humanity as a whole, the things which are seen - those which are tangible - are the only ones which have any place of importance and which are considered worthy of notice.

It is difficult in dealing with the physical mind to detach it sufficiently from traditional thinking, from the ideas which are time-honoured, and which, apparently, are immovable. Yet, as you must know, one of the purposes of my coming into your midst in this way was, and is, to show you a portrait - so far as you can grasp - of things as they are, and not of things as they appear to the physical sight and understanding...

From the beginning you have noticed that again and again I have had to tell you to reverse your opinions - I have said to you: 'Turn from the earth point of view and look at things as Christ taught them, and in the way which reflects the Mind of the Master.'

Tonight then, dear children, I think we will discuss, for a little while, another subject which arises out of the story of Judas - I refer to his act of, as you would say, taking his own life.

There are many divergent opinions as to the seriousness of an action of this kind. In the minds of some it is regarded as a crime; to others it appears as a catastrophe, in the sense that life should have proved so hard...

Well, dear children, the only way in which I can explain to you the nature of the act of so-called 'suicide' is to tell you what happens when the

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spirit is so summarily released. But, first of all, we will get into our minds something of that vast conglomeration of influences, as well as of incidents, which leads our brothers and our sisters to take this desperate course.

I want you to allow your imagination to roam a little. I want you, in mind, to go over, step by step, the road that these travel as a rule... I am not referring to the poor sufferer whose mind has been damaged either directly or indirectly by others or by circumstances - I am dealing tonight with the lonely soul, with he or she who has found the hill too steep; and I want you to understand that although - at the time - the mind may be unhinged by grief or by physical suffering, such as these cannot be classed among those whom you call 'the insane'.

As a rule, dear children, acts of suicide are divided sharply into two categories. On the one hand, the idea has long found a hold on the physical mind, and not being expelled at last gains such proportion of power that the other thoughts are completely swamped by it. This is a serious case to deal with, as you will see.

The second is in the nature rather of a sudden revolt or a feeling of dynamical despair, when - for the time - everything else has been stunned by the sense of struggling against overwhelming odds. In cases such as these, the deed is done entirely on the impulse of the moment, and those who read the circumstances feel that indeed the brain was turned by that which it had to grapple with.

My children I am obliged to treat this subject rather laboriously, but I want you to follow me in thought as much as you are able. I will deal with the former case first.

You all know that certain experiences have a way of undermining, not only the physical resources of the person concerned, but still more so the nervous organism which controls that person's life. It is indeed a sad plight for anyone to be in - I mean it is terribly sad to us to think that over months, and even years, certain souls are allowed to struggle on unaided by their companions upon earth. If you could look into the hearts and minds of countless thousands today, you would see that during certain periods of their life they lived and had their being in a state of isolation.

In thinking this matter over, you must remember that it is against every instinct of physical life to wish to give it up; and when the feeling

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comes that earthly existence cannot be borne any longer, not only is the responsibility of that final act upon the sufferer, but indeed, it is upon those who met them in their daily life.

I say that humanity today is starving for kindness. I say that men and women are in the throes of an overwhelming despair because of the hardness of heart of their brothers and sisters who live side by side with them.

Now, dear children, of course the thought rises in your mind as to why we cannot do more; and yet does it not tell you that we have done a considerable amount when I can say that the tendency, in many cases, is staved off throughout the physical career. Nothing but God's protection could make this possible. Over and over again have we been able to turn that dangerous corner - have been able to force upon consciousness hope for the days to come; and that faint hope - the hope that sooner or later the darkness will break - has been sufficient, for the time, to keep the travellers on their uphill way.

With regard to those who act on impulse: I think you will find, dear children, that they are souls who, for the most part, have been unprepared for the discipline of life. You see, you require practice to suffer. It is a point that is constantly overlooked by psychologists, and by your medical men of today. In order to come through great physical suffering or mental strain successfully, you need practice...

It is a dreadful thing to say - so it appears from the outside point of view - but, children, not from the spiritual point of view. In the case of the impulsive, the preparation for suffering was not there, not only from the spiritual aspect but even from the elementary physical aspect as well. Like children living under the perpetual sun, one day they wake up and find that instead of the blue, the storm is upon them - and like a tree without a staff, they fall to the ground with no wish to put up any fight at all.

You see, dear children, that I have only touched upon two examples. There is, of course, the illustration with which we started - that of remorse. But in the world today remorse for wrong done to another, seldom takes that form. Now and again, of course, a case could be found, but in the main, self is stronger than anything else - and to the mind which has so let itself go, repentance does not come during the physical stages...

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And now, to go a step further: When the spirit is so suddenly released, you can understand that a great sense of shock is felt; and as you have been told before, the physical experiences undertaken are not interfered with - except to the extent that the protection of the body has been thrown aside.

In many cases, dear children, those who have taken the law into their own hands in this way, very soon come to their senses, as it were, and, in spite of the adverse position into which they have forced themselves, they set to work anew - and it should not be necessary for me to say that all the help that can be imagined is there at their disposal...

But I want you to try and grasp, if you can, the terrible damage which such an act does to the struggling soul within. You must remember that no spirit enters on the physical stage without understanding fully all that it is going to mean - and yet when trouble comes, and, for the time, the shadows block out the vision of God's protecting care, they throw aside their most valuable tool. The earth experiences are not dispensed with, as you have been told before, but they have to be worked out under conditions far more difficult still.

In a blind way, man has sought to do what he can to prevent this colossal blunder; and so it is that suicide is classed as crime, and if the attempt is unsuccessful, is treated as such as a warning to others... My children, I will not attempt to go into this point of view tonight - it has its merits and its demerits, as you will see. If a man-made law has a deterrent effect, then, so far as that goes, it is on the good side. But 'punishment' has no place in the Mind of the Divine, and not one soul who has thrown off the body in this way has ever met anything but love from us - and I need not add that Christ's Love is around them all the time.

Children, this is a very sad subject on which to speak, but I am forced to go into it because there are misconceptions as to the effect of such an act - and these sin against the Love of God as well as bring added unhappiness to those who have them. Yet believe me that there is no act that anyone can commit - short of taking the life of another - that has so retarding an effect on the individual soul.

You cannot escape from the experiences which you have taken on, and many there are, who, when they have freed themselves from the earth-life - so they think - are broken-hearted to find that but a pace or two ahead, the Light was shining for them once more.

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Oh, my children, let me not leave on your minds tonight anything but understanding, anything but a reflection of the all-pervading Love of the Father. Those poor creatures who have sought to shut the door on physical life, call forth the compassion of everyone - and it is a double compassion as well: Compassion because such as these heroically took upon themselves more than they found they were able to grapple with - and a greater compassion still, because, by their act, they have hindered the progress which they had so deeply at heart when they entered into the temple of the flesh...

And then from the distressing side I would turn your thoughts to the brighter, which is, that even such as these - and I use the word 'even' in the earth sense - that even such as these can do wonderful service for God before the period of their physical existence has been overtaken. Children, remember that despair, that an hour of darkness from God, does not change a man or a woman's character - they are what they were before, except for the one retrograde step...

You cannot wipe out what has been; you cannot overlook the struggle and the victories, aye, and the rising up after countless failures. All this stands; and so I would impress upon you that these, by reason of their knowledge of such anguish, can set to work almost at once to relieve the sorrows of others - and in so doing, the strength which was missing in themselves can be made good...

You see, dear children, that it is a most difficult subject to try and explain to those upon earth. You have got to view things in a purely spiritual way - physical standards only confuse you. You have got to sum up in your mind's eye, the lives of those concerned. Hardly a day passes when you do not read the details of such cases. You have to go over, in imagination, the thoughts and the suffering which, in the end, produced that blow to the spirit within.

Keep the balance in your mind: God has nothing but compassion and understanding for them; yet it is not in His power to interfere with the quest of the spirit - with the freewill of the individual. That spirit has chosen certain experiences; and if, in the process, the physical betrays - then the spirit, of necessity, goes back on its tracks again and again - until the weakness is turned into strength.

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When they come here - by which I mean have the gift of spiritual sight - they are strong again in the strength which is of God. And though they suffer acutely over the sacrifice of this precious opportunity for progress which they have cast aside, yet such are the spiritual laws that, in time to come, by service to others the act can be wiped out as though it had never been.

Oh, my children, more and more I beg you to pour out your sympathy on the strugglers. Cannot you grasp - and by 'you', I speak to all who read these records - cannot you grasp that no one with a glimmering of hope would wish to take so drastic a course? Why is the hope not there? Why is it that despair has the upper hand? Why is it that there is not another human heart they can go to in trust and in faith?...

I say that there would never be a case of suicide, if in the heart and mind of one other, real understanding could be found. It is the loneliness that does it. It is that terrible isolation of the soul. The spirit is at one with its Maker, but the soul - by reason of the very experience it is going through - is conscious of separation from love in every sense there could be.

I have told you not to commiserate with those who have taken the steeper side. But I tell you all to beware of not rising to your responsibilities - your responsibilities in connection with your brother and your sister, even though they may be separated from you by space and by environment.

There are many ways of helping, and I know it only needs for me to talk on a subject of this kind for the great longing to help to arise in your minds. My children, you can help those that you know in one way only - by love. And those that you don't know, you can help by your prayers.

I want you to remember to include in your prayers regularly the lonely - those who are isolated by the very experiences they have taken on; those lonely, wandering souls who, so far as the physical mind is concerned, are unaware what it is all about. They suffer but they see not God in the struggle; they wait and know not why the answering Voice cannot be heard.

These, dear children, need your prayers. Pray for those who are physically alone and friendless, and then pray for those who, shut up in

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the isolation of their solitary quest, are experiencing much which will not come your way during the earth stages.

On another occasion I want to speak to you about that which is represented to you under the term of 'insanity', but not tonight. Tonight, I want to leave in your minds two things of great importance:

First, that the damage in regard to the progress of the spirit is of a very serious character when the physical body is thrown aside by the person to whom it belongs.

And then, as a contrast to that, the wonderful hope in the thought that, even so, such are gathered close under the wings of Divine Love. And that these, although they cannot escape the experiences from which they long to separate themselves, yet in the carrying on of the burden in slightly different conditions, can still do God's work and be used as tools by Him to help others.

Side by side you get the mistake and the rectification of that mistake by the Father. And I want you to think it over in quietness, when you are alone, and to let your mind sift out the different points which I have tried to bring out tonight. And above all to shoulder your responsibilities, and to promise yourselves - that greater, nobler self within - that by your prayers and your influence, you will try to prevent others from making that great mistake.

And if you will send out love along those lines of Light which you have been told about, I can promise you, in God's Name, that though you send it to a complete stranger, yet the strength shall reach them and shall have the power of diverting them from their purpose...

This is a subject of which, as yet, I have taught you little. But later on, as you grow ready for it, I want to show you the power lent by God, which lies hidden in each one. I want to show you that it is possible, by sending out thoughts of hope and of courage, to literally 'save' a stranger whom you have never seen, and whose circumstances are unknown to your physical mind.

My children, we shall not be able to do very much more tonight, because of the intense cold which my child is conscious of, and her lack of physical vitality, which is making it very difficult for me to get through with clearness that which I wish to teach.

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Yet with your help we shall continue, and I would add just this: That those who read these records very seldom pause to consider how it has been made possible for these communications to be received - the years of preparation, and even the physical discomfort of allowing others to speak through a body which has already had considerable inroads made upon it... My children, you must have wondered at my hesitation here, but my child was not certain that it was wise that these remarks should be made. I take full responsibility for them, for I think that those who read these 'messages' should know - or, at any rate, have some faint conception of - what is exacted in order to produce them.

And now, my children, I will leave you for a little while, and when I come back again, I think I shall be able to break the lingering sadness which I find here tonight - and so we shall part, as usual, in joy and in happiness that we have met together in this sacred communion...

(Others then spoke...)

MRS BROOKES...

...I am quite a stranger to you all, but I hope you will include me with the rest... I ask you to send your minds back to a church, familiar by the associations of friendship and of teaching, and then to follow on in thought those who came after - and here I find my place. It is Mrs Brookes, and the tie between us is slender indeed.

I am allowed to come this evening to add a word of reassurance in regard to those who, through conditions over which they had no control, lived under the shadow of a mind that was not normal. I recall myself to your memory, and particularly to Winnie's memory, because once our eyes met and we each found sympathy there.

I recall my case because I want you to know how wonderful are the ways of God; how He watches over us in all our foolish ways, and even if circumstances prove too strong for us, still we are protected by Him; and when we come here, we see that all the time it was well - well with us.

I want you to think of me in a garden all my own; I want you to forget the little tragedy that darkened the last part of my life on earth, and, in future, to associate me with sunshine, with music and with those 'messengers of God' - the flowers which bloom and never fade.

Suicide

In my garden there are many varieties, but each has its work to do; and I wish you would try and adopt this attitude too in regard to the flowers you have upon earth. Each flower, could you but see it, has its place in creation - its part in the Great Plan on which God works - but the flowers are used in other ways as well, and I want to tell you tonight why it is that I have been given a garden of my own.

You see, those upon earth who love beauty and sweetness, and find that both are missing, are conscious always of a great loss; and, again, you have heard how those who are in the Spirit bring gifts of flowers and of beauty of all kinds, and build them up around those they love. And over here 'those we love' takes in all those who are in need whom we can reach.

So you see, I have plenty to do; and my flowers and I are always on terms of the greatest harmony and understanding. They know their part and I know mine; and next time you get, as some of you do, that wonderful wave of fragrance passing before you, think of the side of the flowers - think of it like this: That the flowers too have their place in God's scheme, and in giving to the soul of one even that faint reflection of joy, so they have played their part, and so they will do so again and again.

And then I would like to say one word in regard to those lonely ones that you have heard so much about tonight - there are many here in this room - they come flocking to meetings like this because it is such an enormous help to them - it gives them courage to 'try again'. Those once lonely souls have a great work for God to carry out, and you would be surprised how instinctively they turn to beauty of all kinds in order to equip themselves with the necessary beauty of mind - without which it is impossible to help those on earth.

It has been a little difficult to get this message through, but I am not at all discouraged, and if only I can leave behind an impression of the sweetness that is everywhere - not only in the Realms of the Spirit but right through the physical planes - I shall be happy indeed. In my garden there are flowers surpassing anything your imagination could conjure up; and next time you see a child or a poor old man or woman selling their wares in the gutter, or searching for food amongst the refuse, think of the flowers, because they will be there.

It is the sense of contrast that is so hard to grasp. Poverty and dirt and squalor, from the physical standpoint, don't harmonise with beauty

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and freshness and young life. But just because in the gutter those things are so sadly missing, so it is that we bring and build up round each one that which is of God.

Think of me in this way: That all that I wanted to be when upon earth and couldn't rise to - all those fantasies and day-dreams which surrounded my life - that all these have now been turned into concrete fact, and even the so-called affliction that struck me later on, I see now was just that I should bring a little more with me when I came here... And when I came here I stepped into the radiance that was God's Love, and I can't think now of anything but beauty and brightness; and power has been given to me in order that I may pass on some of those good gifts to others, and so reveal God's Love to those who know Him not...

It is difficult speaking tonight... It is not only my lack of concentration. Mrs Moyes, I think you will be able to recall me, and I am sure that Winnie will give me my place in this sacred circle - the circle of Love which is going to throw off its brightness to those who are out in the darkness...

Thank you very much! Next time the conditions will be different and there is much I would like to say in regard to the place which flowers have in physical life, but that must wait...

(Zodiac returned and continued...)

...My children, we must close tonight because I cannot hold together sufficient power to continue without undue strain upon my child. It is purely a passing experience - next week we shall be as usual - but tonight a sense of strain and effort is there, and it is difficult to use the physical organs - which I am bound to, as you know, in these evenings.

My last word tonight is not of the earth, it is not of the sea, but it is of the air - it is of wings that I would speak, and I want you, in thought, to get into the way of sending your mind out, as it were, on wings - and let those wings be of the Spirit...

The daily round, the duties which crowd so quickly one upon the other, have a way sometimes of shutting out the Vision Glorious; and so I want to divert you from that which, of necessity, is concerned with material things. I want you, in thought, to soar far and wide, not only to

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your loved ones on this side, but to the many spheres which are open to those who wish to serve God...

To you who are fond of music, then allow your mind on its own to seek out those planes where music abounds on every side, where every harebell expresses melody of such exquisite beauty that no words can be found to describe it... In those conditions find your rest from toil, from the lack of harmony in your surroundings, from the limitations of your shut-in lives...

And then to you who would find beauty expressed in many forms - in that of service, of healing, and of re-creating hope in the hopeless - send out your minds to reach that Fountain of New Life which shall give of its power and its strength to you, so that you may pass on to others that which stands to you as an ideal.

My children, there is nothing that you could think of in the way of beauty, of purity, and of holiness, that you cannot contact with instantly as the wish arises in the mind. I want you to get away from the idea that you have to wait until the physical body is laid aside before you can contact with the things of the Spirit.

They are at your side here and now - they are within your grasp the moment the prayer comes into your mind. Never has the wish arisen for anything that represented beauty, as created by God - whether in sound, in form, or in thought - without it being instantly at your disposal, not only for personal use but to give to others - to give to all those who wish to climb...

My children, tonight it seems to you that perhaps the conditions have been too much for us - but I say: No - I say that in spite of weakness, of weariness, and that sense of isolation - that in spite of these hindrances, we have contacted with that which is Divine. And this being so, the blessing rests on all; and I say to you that stronger and stronger still are the bands of love around you. And the time shall come - the time shall come - when never again shall either of my children feel that they are alone. Yet it is an experience which all must go through - but once the lesson has been learnt, so it passes out of memory and the wounds are healed.

In the springtime of life's experience, the soul is untrained; in the summertime, then it faints a little by the way; in the autumn, so the

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weariness grows; and when winter comes, it seems, sometimes, that hope and courage are even as the dead leaves on either side. But once the cycle of experience has been completed, lo, a second spring arrives - the spring of Revelation.

Out of your suffering, contacting with Love Divine, you start to live the life that your Father intended. And to that time, dear children, I direct your thoughts - to your re-birth, to that re-creation of strength, when you are a little nearer to the greater, nobler self within. Once that era is started, autumn and winter are known no more. Like a flower, you emerge from the bud stage into the full beauty of blossom, and that beauty renews itself again and again, even as the flowers on this side. So is the spirit able to hold that which it has purchased so dearly, and so is the spirit able to pass on to others something of its own brightness and holiness.

Therefore, let not your hearts be troubled; have faith in God, and know that this stage of your experience, of necessity, must lead on to the spring - the spring of Revelation, of Love Divine.

God bless you all and gather you in. God give you strength to pour out on others that which you have gained yourself. God open your hearts to Love - to the wider, bigger Love, when self ceases to exist because all your joy comes in serving... God bless you with your soul's desire, which is unity with Him for ever more... Amen.



THE SUBCONSCIOUS MIND.

THE SPIRITUALISING OF THE HEART, MIND AND SOUL OF MAN.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 14th December, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Beloved Saviour, with a gratitude too great to be expressed by words, we come into Thy Presence tonight, and we ask Thee to raise us up in spirit and to help us to for ever dissociate ourselves from the trivial things of material life...

In quietness, in sympathy, in unity we meet together, and we know that because in the heart and mind of each one is the longing to contact with Holy things, out of Thy beneficent goodness Thou wilt so close us in that indeed the things which are Divine may be sensed, if not seen tonight.

O God, make us pure, make us noble. Grant that we may rise nearer and nearer still to the gift of the Holy Spirit which is within us, and that we, for ever casting off thoughts of self, may, in our new-found freedom, contact with the selflessness which is of Thee.

Father, out of Thy great Love, give us tonight that which we need most - the comfort, the renewal of courage, the inspiration of hope and the certainty that in obeying the Voice of the Spirit we shall emerge from the shadowy misunderstanding of the meaning of physical life, into the illumined glory of the knowledge of Thy Love...

Into Thy Hands once more we commend ourselves; and we know that, far more than the physical mind can grasp, Holiness is with us tonight...

Father, we thank Thee ever and ever again... Amen...

The Subconscious Mind

The Spiritualising of the Heart, Mind and Soul of Man

...Good evening, my children. Tonight I can say that it is a 'good evening', and you can understand the underlying joy in that phrase. To you upon earth, the words come as a matter of course; but on this side, even so, we are bound by the law of Truth which is immovable, so far as we are concerned, and only that which tallies exactly with the bright, unswerving flame of Truth - only that can come through to you.

Therefore, when I say 'Good evening', my children, you know that not only is the goodness of God all around, but that you too have contributed your little towards harmonising yourselves with that which is Divine.

Tonight, then, dear children, being in suitable mood, and finding sympathy in a way you little grasp, I would speak to you of the outside fringe of that vast subject - the spiritualising of your hearts and minds.

My children, in your records, you read that: 'God is a Spirit' (John 4:24); and I draw your attention to this in the beginning because on that hangs everything else, and without that magnificent fact I could not be in your midst tonight... God is a Spirit.

And then from that I lead you on to the contemplation of your part in the scheme of things. As God is a Spirit and you are His children, then it follows - without any reserve whatever - that you too are Spirit, because you are of Him.

Now, dear children, in thinking of those in physical life, it seems to you sometimes that it is a far cry to even the things of the Spirit, far more to the Spirit itself. But I ask you to think the matter over with that inner vision which God has given you - I ask you not to deal only with the past and the present but to send your mind on, forging through the many stages of development, until you can find the connecting link between the body and the Gift which is enshrined within...

My children, in the consideration of this subject, I would touch upon that vast one - to you - of what is called the functioning of the subconscious mind, or, as some prefer to name it, the subliminal self.

Now, in the mind of man, many graves are dug; many stiles also are erected over which he must climb, before he can get out into the open

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pleasant country of spiritual understanding. In regard to the work on which we are engaged, there are some who would dismiss this sacred communion with those in the Bright Realms solely as a strange misdirection or misuse of the so-called subconscious mind.

Well, my children, you know it is not my custom to fence matters in any way at all, and so tonight I state bluntly that, to a certain extent, these deductions are correct - but they know not of what they speak...

Let us come back to the beginning. Few in the world today understand more than an infinitesimal part of the construction of the human brain. Vast areas are inaccessible from the physical standpoint, and in order to designate that which cannot be explained, the term of the 'subconscious mind' was brought in, and ever since has been made the culprit for that which is beyond the range of the mind of the body.

My children, in regard to this sacred communion, the so-called subconscious mind plays a tremendous part. Indeed without it, it would be impossible to break down the many barriers between the material and spiritual world's which man has thrown up so recklessly.

The subconscious mind is even as the ante-room between the physical plane - with its clamour and many distractions - and the inner sanctuary of the Spirit.

You can imagine how necessary it is with the things of God, to get away from those which, in the main, are not of Him. It is even as emerging from the noisy courtyard into the quiet vestibule which leads into the Holy of Holies... In the subconscious mind the preparation goes on - without it, it would be impossible to step into that sacred domain of the Spirit.

I ask you, dear children, when you hear those who, in tones of discredit, comment on the functioning of the subconscious mind in regard to communicating with those who have gone on before - I want you to take up the challenge, to accept it and to stand by your faith, that without this most precious medium, neither you nor anyone else could contact with the things which are of God.

You see, dear children, that God, in creating man, took a very wide view indeed. As you know, He provided all those many good gifts of nature and the toys which the children of the earth love so well; but, being God,

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He knew that in time to come these would fail to satisfy - that from within, from the real man and the real woman, the longing would come surging up to reach out beyond the spheres of physical feeling into the realms of spiritual understanding.

Therefore, in the mechanism of man, the necessary channel was provided, so that at any time - at any period in the world's history - the soul which had come to itself could, through the medium of that which lay hidden in the physical brain, contact with its affinity in the Spirit...

You must not confuse the soul and the spirit-part of life. You have been told over and over again, that that which is of God is untouched - untouchable - by the world or any evil force there may be... It is somewhat as with the diamond in the mine - I use this illustration, crude as it is, to convey some impression of things as they are, for you are not ready yet for the greater vision, which, dear children, only waits for your progress in order to be made your own...

As you know, this jewel, which you rank of great price, is very often buried deep down in the confines of the earth - and much labour, much disappointment, much that causes the mind and the body to ache, has to be forthcoming before it is wrested from the encrustations of the soil.

And so it is with the soul - the soul which covers and protects that which is Divine; the soul which, sometimes, is far more deeply hidden - by thoughts and actions and weaknesses - than the diamond which is embedded in the earth.

And then, my children, I ask you to pause and think, for here you get your parallel again. After that which is precious has been rescued, still it is dull and unlovely to look upon, and much work has yet to be done - the preparation, the polishing, the refining, all the skill and thought. But even then with the jewel in your hand, if the light of the sun is not there you will get no responding ray from it...

You see, the simile is complete. Even when man has found his soul - through thought, through work, through sorrow - he waits for the Light of the World to shine upon him, before, in turn, he can throw out light upon others. The beauty does not reach perfection - it is not able to express itself unless the Light is there.

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And this should teach you what your part and what my part always must be. We have been through the first stages; we have known what it was to be crushed down by the earth and all that means; we have known, also, when the desire came to be free of the darkness and to be of use to others.

But even then, dimness and dullness was there until the spirit within, contacting with the great Father Spirit, made that which was imperfect complete. The greater Light, shining on the smaller light, enables that smaller light to cast out rays of beauty; and these - according to the Light which shines upon it - are able to reflect that which is Divine.

My children, the spiritualising of the soul of man is of so much importance that you cannot give it too great attention; and yet such is the irony of physical life that it is, generally speaking, the one thing which is ruled out of consideration. How like the folly of humanity! How like our own weakness and our own inclination too - that that which is of primary importance comes second, third, and sometimes is relegated so far in the distance that it ceases to obtrude itself upon the mind at all...

And so you see, dear children, that every voice that can proclaim the duty and the privilege of the soul of man, and every heart that can respond to the outpouring of Love Divine - each one is needed, is necessary as heaven. We are responsible not only to the self within but also to those who are building up the thoughts of the generations to come.

'You cannot serve God and mammon'. How often have you heard that quoted, and yet today it is what the children of the earth seek to do. They try and they fail, and in many cases the world wins all along the line. But there is one thing that is forgotten by humanity as a whole - that man is Spirit, not body; that man is of God and not of the earth.

And the day will dawn when that consciousness - that self-consciousness, the consciousness of the pure and perfect self within - will come to each one, and then they will go back on their tracks, seeking to remake the road they built so carelessly in their folly and misunderstanding...

Little children of the Light, cannot you see how greatly you have been blessed? Cannot you see that even in your deepest sorrow, in the loss of those you hold most dear, you are gaining your freedom, you are

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acquiring power - the power of the Spirit - you are forging on, leaving that which seeks to hold you back, forging on into the freedom of the consciousness of the Divinity which is within?...

As you know, there are many who falter by the way, but to those who have God in their hearts I say: Be of good cheer, that which is of darkness can touch you no more. Steep though the hill, arduous though the climb, many though the heartaches and the pains of the body, yet around you, once free from the restrictions of the physical mind, you will see the Spirit bands, those who are strong in courage, those who are wise in the wisdom of the Spirit, and they - commissioned by the Saviour, the Redeemer, the Great Father - they watch your steps lest you should fall. And so it means just this: A stumble now and again, and then on once more...

Oh, my children, try and take in tonight this great gift of spiritual vision, which is being given to you as fast as you can hold it. Try and make your own the knowledge of the power that serving Christ brings to all; and then you will not hesitate to throw out those cords of love on the outsider, on those who still cling to the faded toys of the world.

Instinctively your love will go forth to this one and that, and though setbacks may come - discouragements in plenty - yet, as I have said before, not one word which has anything of God in it shall ever die. In the Father's good time, the seed shall put forth leaf and blossom, and you, little children of the Light, will have been the sowers, by the grace of God and through the illumination of the Holy Spirit...

My children, I said in the beginning that I could only touch upon the fringe of this subject. But I want you to take away with you the thought that your Heavenly Father, out of His great wisdom and understanding of the heart of man, placed within the human mind that connecting link, that channel by which he might contact direct with the things of the Spirit - and, housed there, are many, many things which you know not of, and which none in the physical world can grasp - treasures of power and possibilities - a myriad gifts of the Spirit are stored in the ante chamber of the human mind.

But as you go on, as you wish to rise, so shall the use of those gifts be made your own; and that which you dreamed not of, shall, in time to come, be as a natural faculty - and yet will but lead you on to others, still nearer

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to the great wisdom of the Spirit. In that day, you will see what the knowledge of the physical mind is worth - it will be as the sea-spray compared to the great ocean of spiritual understanding.

Yes, that is held out for the children of the earth when man is fitted to use the gifts provided, but not till then. Individually you can do much, and this explains why this one and that seems to be more gifted, spiritually, than others; it is because man - as a whole - is not yet ready for wielding that wonderful power which lies within his reach. The only way is by preparation, by dedication, by offering up the heart and will to God.

Yet, it may seem to you that there are many who love God with all their hearts who have not these special gifts of the Spirit. But there are two reasons:

There are those who, consciously or unconsciously, bar them out. The physical mind, even with the best motive there could be, holds the reins too tight and the spirit is hampered - but not much when love for Christ is there. When the material body is laid aside, illumination and the revelation of God's Love will be theirs, even as they pass out.

There are others, as you know, who rule out the things of the Spirit because the things of the world are so much more important. Well, dear children, it is only a question of time - and in speaking of time, I am referring to generations. The years roll on, and the day will come when the imprisoned spirit within man will at last assert itself - only then will direct contact with the things of God be made possible.

You must not judge hardly; you must remember, dear children, that although, to you, humanity seems to be growing rather old, yet, from the spiritual standpoint, it is still in its baby stages. When you come here, you will look back on the brief physical existence, and you will marvel how, in some cases, little children carried so great a load; and again, how, seeing the Love of God on every side, that those little children could have regarded it as a burden at all.

The contrast is always there with those who have the wider understanding. You marvel and you marvel again, and the second marvelling blocks out the first, for you see that even though the children staggered under that which seemed so heavy, all the time the weight was borne by the One who bears all for us, Who suffers for us, through us, and

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by us - Who heals and heals again; Who inspires with courage; Who dries the tears; Who raises up from the earth; and not only that, but in man's hand puts power - puts that wonderful power of the Spirit, when the children are children no more but grown-up sons and daughters of the Most High...

Yes, let it sink into the minds of all - that you, living out your humdrum lives; that you, beset by entanglements from which sometimes you find it almost impossible to extricate yourselves; that you, the little children of the earth - are the sons and daughters of the Most High, and as heirs of everlasting life are indeed of Himself, part of the One who created you and started you on the long journey of experience.

My children, I feel I have carried you with me in thought tonight, and I feel also that in the days to come you will look back on this evening, and from your remembrance of it will gain strength - will find within yourselves that inner strength which is of God.

And then you will be able to put sorrow in its right place; not as something you turn from with horror, but rather seeing in its very pangs the means by which you are brought nearer to your heart's desire - and your heart's desire, dear children, is, in its essence, that which is of the spirit too. The spirit within knows to Whom it belongs; the soul-part of you has heard the call of the spirit; and, lastly but not least, the mind of the body responds... Here you get the trinity, the unity, the completion - the at-one-ment with your Father, God.

And now, I leave you for a little while, but I want you to lay aside self as much as possible - not to think of this one or of that, but to be quite certain that the Master knows what is best for each, and that He - seeing into the future - is clearing from out your path the briars, the thorns and the stones, which would impede your progress. Seeing and knowing, He gives to each one that which is needful, and in His Hands all is wonderfully well...

(Others then spoke...)

FATHER DAMIEN...

...I have come tonight, by the power of God, to give a message which I hope will help you, but I want you to help me first.

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We are strangers in the body, strangers in religion, strangers even in nationality, but I am sent into your presence tonight to testify to the far-reaching, the amazing Love of God.

It is Father Damien, and I ask you to give me of your sympathy in an unlimited degree because it is not easy to speak. My mind seems full of memories of the days that are long past... You remember how my life ran and where I chose to be, and tonight I've come back with the greatest joy, to say that the life of service is the only life worth having.

You know my story, if not in detail then in outlines. I was allowed to choose, and I chose to be amongst the lepers and to help those who were helpless to aid themselves. Those days, by some, are enshrined in a glory which does not belong to me. Those days to me, even with their consequences, were full of happiness - of that inward gladness which close communion with the Saviour always brings - and I smile when I hear people, as they have done, refer to my 'self-sacrifice.'

What did I sacrifice? What did I gain? I gave up the world with its worries, with its entangling thoughts, with its disappointments and disillusionments - and I sought a far shore where I found friends and love and peace and joy. That was my self-sacrifice.

Oh, it should teach you much; it should tell you that what the world calls 'sacrifice' is gain, and nothing else. It should tell you that the gifts which God bestows, far, far outweigh anything that the human mind could hold out. It should show you too that the life of service is the shortest way to God.

Oh, my dear brothers and sisters, you know, as I know - having watched human souls on their winding way - that the length of the road is the part which tries them most - but the length of the road can be measured by the service which is given out. You can travel on over a whole life-time of experience and not consciously find God even in the end - or you can take the short, sharp climb, and though, may be, you arrive breathless and weary, the prize is yours...

I have come tonight to tell you, as my colleague told you before (Father Bernard Vaughan) that in the sight of the Father creeds, doctrines, differences of opinion, are as nothing. The only thing that

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matters, the only thing that produces, is the love of God in the heart of man - which instantly expresses itself in service to others...

When you hear that word 'self-sacrifice', remember me, remember my joyful road, and remember its shortness too... And then, for ever gathered into the Light which fades not - purified, stripped of that which held me back - the Father, out of His gracious goodness, has used me and used me again...

Oh, think of this as well: Those physical horrors, as you regard them, are nothing in comparison with the diseases of the soul - to those terrible marks of self-indulgence, of evil thoughts, of wilfully seeking that which is of darkness. I say that the body of the so-called vilest leper is beautiful in comparison to the malformations with which man, by his sin and folly, inflicts on the soul, and which - by processes too numerous to be told - have to be worked out, purified, healed, before he can go on...

Yes, I thank my God that He gave me sufficient sight to see the joy of the road that lay in front; and I ask you to allow your love to go out to one, who in seeking to serve the Master, brought unto himself treasure - treasure which cannot be expressed in any language of the earth.

And then I would speak of this: I would ask all those who read these records, to bear in mind ever and ever again, that what is not done during the physical stages, has to be done when the body is laid aside - if it was not done before the physical stages commenced.

And then to think of this: That once free from the body, those who have tried to serve God have His Love revealed unto them - and that when they come here, all distinctions are laid aside, and often those whose experiences were in direct contrast come together to gain help from each other.

I speak of this because of Vaughan. His life, so strangely different from mine, made no barriers when he was free from the body. What he did not, and what did not come his way during his earth life, now he has taken up in the Spirit with joy unimaginable; and he and I have worked together in those conditions which to you represent the 'under-worlds'.

Together there we work, my greater and longer experience guiding him, and he asks me to say - with so much humility he asks me to say:

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Think of him no more amongst those of the world, in their comfort and their ease, but think of him working out God's will amongst the sin-stained - those who are so sadly afflicted, those who have turned from the Light to the deepest darkness. There he works, seeking by prayer and by service, to make himself one with the Divine within; and I tell you tonight that he is of God in heart and mind, that nothing that does not express God now finds lodgement in his thoughts; that he is making good, as you would say, in the only way that is possible for you or for me or for him - by Service - by tending those who have lost the power to help themselves, by seeking to cleanse that which is so dissociated from purity that the cleansing process is slow indeed.

Yes, in this work for God we gain that which is greatest and best - we gain freedom, we gain wisdom - the wisdom of the Spirit - which for ever blots out the knowledge of the mind of the body... And so we go on - pulling up, sometimes by main force - indeed using all the power which God has entrusted to us, trying to extricate those who are as 'buried' beneath the mass of their own weakness and folly.

Again I say to you that the life of so-called self-sacrifice brings the greatest gain of all. Never was there a word which had such a double meaning. Selfishness is loss; in the replacement of self is treasure and freedom for ever more...

God bless you all - God bless you...

(Digital transcriber's note: From this point, unfortunately, the final paragraph of Father Damien's Address is mostly illegible in this source text. However, this last paragraph appears to mention having gratitude to God for a million things, and that Religion, in the earth sense, is lost in the bond of Service)...

(After all had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children...

(Digital transcriber's note: Unfortunately, the first two paragraphs of Zodiac's closing words are mostly illegible in this source text - However, these paragraphs appear to be about: Preparation; that Love is the key

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which opens everything of the Spirit; that to come through suffering successfully requires practice; that to love as intended also requires practice - and that without training or practising to love as intended, ones progress is retarded)...

You see, dear children, that in the Realms of the Spirit, love abounds - it is the essence of the very life itself - and were you to cross over now, you would find it terribly difficult to grow into those conditions which are rightly your own...

I have referred to this before, and I emphasise it doubly tonight:

In order to contact with happiness, in your own mind there must be some semblance of happiness too. It is most important. Grief, sorrow - these things of the earth block your higher progress into the Realms of the Spirit. And so I ask you to take yourselves in hand - to studiously cultivate the seeds of love in your hearts until they are strong and hardy plants, and to realise that in so doing you are following God's will.

The days of preparation have been long, the going very hard in some cases, and the time has arrived when I say to you that you cannot contact with the happiness of the Bright Realms unless that physical mind of yours is conscious of happiness too.

Therefore, once more I tell you to take on this task - perhaps it sounds very difficult to you - but to take on the task of bringing the physical mind up to the necessary standard of happiness, when you can contact with something of the joy of the Spirit which is all around you.

My children, we must close. My child is getting a little tired, and I want the days in front not to be hampered by the ropes of the physical body, which sometimes seems weighted with a load which is almost too heavy to be drawn along. I want my child - and I want you all - to feel that you are unbound and free; that as children of the King you can go forward in happy confidence in the One who goes in front.

Tonight, then, we close on a note of perfect understanding all round; and if sorrow has crept a little close during the days that have passed, well, they are past; and all you are expected to do - and all you are asked to do - is to hold still more closely to the Love which never fails, and to the

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Love which, in due time, is going to place you on that high pinnacle of spiritual understanding, when you will look down on the years that have been, and marvel that darkness ever had the power to shut you off from the Light...

God bless you with peace, with that sweet contentment, with that close communion with the things of the Spirit, which shall guard you and protect you from all that seeks to harm... In the Name of the Father I ask it, and in the Father's Name I say that the blessing is all around...

Goodnight, my children.



FINDING CHRIST.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 21st December, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

O Gracious Spirit, we meet tonight with happy hearts, with hopes that are high and with a faith that is firm. Grant that upon each one this evening the Holy Spirit may descend, and that they, feeling that sweet companionship, shall indeed forget the world and all that seeks to hinder...

O Father, we pray that the Light may come - we ask it for Thine own dear sake. And we know that in gathering together for this sacred communion we are indeed as little children seeking to carry out the injunction which Thou hast laid upon us; and because of this the protection is secure, the blessing is three-fold, and the joy and the peace of the Spirit is here.

O Father, grant that we may emerge from the smaller self into that new liberty of consciousness - that consciousness that we are Spirit and not body, that consciousness that we are linked to Thee for all Eternity. Enlarge the borders of our thinking, open our hearts and minds to Love - to the bigger sweeter, purer Love - and make it possible that in front the Star may be seen, even as those who were out in the darkness saw the Star of sacred worth, of the Redeeming Spirit. Grant that Thy little children on earth may, with faith, raise their eyes from the earth and see the star of attainment - of spiritual attainment - calling them on and on...

Take of us, take of each one, that which we have to offer - our thoughts, the love of our hearts, the wish to serve; and grant that these, coming under Thy Divine understanding, may be found acceptable and may be used to further the work which Thou hast given us to carry out... We ask it with humility, yet with certainty that as we ask, so the Grace will come.

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Father, we thank Thee... thank Thee... Amen...

...Good evening, my children. I want you tonight to try and follow me in thought a little farther on the road of spiritual understanding, which, in a way you little think at this stage, shall be proved to be indeed of marvellous worth. I speak to you all - I make no exception and the stranger is gathered in - I ask you to allow the Spirit to so play upon the physical mind that its restrictions will fall away; and you, just wishing to contact with the things of the Spirit, shall indeed contact with the great Spirit of all. Only have faith and patience, and nothing shall be denied you if your wishes are pure...

My children, in these evenings, I like, as you know, to get everything - as much as possible - into harmony. And I have told you before that it is not always an easy task - the things of the earth interfere. I am not blaming you for this, but I tell you that when the mind is fixed too firmly on the material, naturally, you bar yourselves from entering into the peace which passeth understanding.

So when we come together like this, I have to take your minds and your feelings, as well as your opinions, and by the power of the Spirit, weave them into the finer vibrations which are here - brought by Divine power into this little room in a measure unimagined, not only by you but by anyone upon the earth plane.

Still this has been done over and again, and your part is a small one - very small in comparison with ours. We just ask you to think of God, and then to think of what you would like to be - as you imagine God intended. This done, the harmony is complete.

So you see, dear children, now I have gathered you all in under my love, I can continue without fear of interruption - and tonight I want to speak to you a little about: Finding Christ.

Yes, you have heard a lot about that from this one and that, and sometimes a word here and there enables you to get one pace closer to the Saviour; and yet again, so bewildering are the theories which emanate from the mind of man, that a chance phrase seems to put that Gracious Presence far, far away.

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Well, dear children, of course it is not necessary for me to say that there are vast numbers who do not wish to find Christ at all - it isn't a question of seeking and not finding, it is rather the attitude of mind that rules the Divine out altogether. The world is more attractive; its multitude of details press upon the mind, and man - in his folly and blindness - says to himself: 'I'll attend to that later on!'

But to such as these, very often the opportunity does not come in the way they think. You cannot suppress a desire which is of the spirit, without - in time - that desire withering down to its roots. You cannot play with that which is Divine within - you have got to treat it as something which has to be contended with sooner or later, something that has to be answered and will not be put aside by vain excuses...

My children, in speaking thus forcibly, I would not have you think that I am setting myself up as a judge on these poor, foolish ones - but I see what this carelessness is going to cost them later. You cannot go on the road which leads away from God, and then, having reached a certain point, take a short cut across country and pick up the right one.

You have been told that there is one road and one road only, and if you choose that which is alien to Him, so, when the real you wakes up to its responsibilities, with pain, with heaviness of heart, and much weariness of body, step by step you come back - come back to the cross-roads again - and until you have reached that point which shows an open, direct path to God, happiness will elude you and regret be your portion, because of the awful waste of time...

My children, 'finding Christ' is at one and the same time the simplest and the hardest thing there is. Simple because Christ has said: 'Take up thy cross and follow me', and in that brief injunction you get your direction. Faith and obedience and love - and once you can say: 'I come', then the protection is so built up around you that evil, as evil, can touch you no more.

But man turns that which is simple into the complicated; he uses those precious gifts of the physical mind which you call 'intellect', to make barriers between himself and the Father; he plays with this idea and that - he does not want to find Christ, but rather to exalt and develop that self which the physical mind only represents - that same physical mind, remember, which is laid aside with the body when you come Home.

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Man prefers the winding paths of thought - faith represents very little to him at this stage: 'Give me facts!' - he says - 'show me it was laid down by science and proved in practice, and then I will believe!' Yet, mark you, what has science shown all through the ages? That its landmarks are movable - that it has never reached a state yet of finality and never will. Science - that designation which so often misrepresents the meaning meant to be conveyed - science is as a little child learning its lessons, and, as it passes on from stage to stage, finds that the wider vision blocks out the restricted view of childhood.

And so you see, dear children, that it is not wise to put your whole weight on anything of the earth, however valuable or useful it may be, because man is finite and is but in the learning stages, and can only progress by making mistakes and proving the truth.

On he plods, and much valuable work is done in the way of steadying the wills of others, of producing consecutive thought, of holding the mind in so that it is not at the mercy completely of the emotions. This, so far as it goes, is of immense value; but, as I have said, if you are to rely upon any certain thing or certain person, then you must be sure that that one thing or person is reliable.

And so we come back to faith - faith in God, faith in our Saviour Christ, unchanging, unchangeable, the One who never fails however great the provocation may be. In a restless world, with its uncertainties on either side - oh, it should bring comfort to those who feel they are as a craft at the mercy of a current which they little understand; it should bring comfort to these to know that there is One, not only as an Anchor when anchorage is required, but as the Steersman, as He who can take you through the fiercest dangers there are, and One with Whom you know you can leave everything to be worked out, because of His perfect Love as well as His infinite understanding.

My children, be not deceived by yourselves and let not others deceive you. Those who wish to find Christ, find Him very soon; those who say they wish to find Christ, and yet look in the opposite direction - they find Him not - because there is only one way of finding the Master: By seeking, by effort, and by determination to go on.

And then I speak of another matter which sometimes has been discussed by you and others. It is in regard to those, who, free from the body, are classed amongst those in the Bright Realms of the Spirit...

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It has been chronicled by some that these have not yet found the Christ - the Messiah - that they have come back saying: 'We know not of a Christ here!' - and there are those upon earth who take this as evidence that Christ as God, and God as Christ, never existed.

Well, my children, what I said about those upon the earth applies equally to those who are free from the body. There is not one who has passed out of physical life, who has ever wished to see Christ, who has not seen Him in all His Love, tenderness and beauty.

To those who deny His existence I say: Seek Him with the mind of the spirit and you will find! And more than that, I tell you tonight that even to those who tell you they know not Christ, Christ has come, has ministered unto them, has tried to help them to get free: He comes but they know Him not. So you see that history repeats itself again and again...

The Christ-Child, the gift of the Spirit was despised. Christ came to man - the long-promised Messiah, the One who had been looked for, prayed for - and yet when He came they knew Him not.

Oh, my children, doesn't it tell you the danger of that physical mind and physical thinking which is not controlled by the spirit, when such views, such convictions, hold good even when the body is laid aside, and if they willed, unlimited vision of the wonders of God might be theirs? On earth they knew not Christ, and out of the material world still they know not the Saviour - although the Saviour ministers unto them.

Children, you have been told that even those most alien to Our Lord are under His care and are surrounded by His Love, so it should not surprise you when I say that to those poor blinded ones Christ comes again and again. And I would add that, presently - yes, perhaps rather a long time ahead - but the day will come when these will awake and they will understand - they will understand that even as Christ companioned them on earth, so He companions them in the worlds beyond the earth - and so He will be with them until the end, which, as you know, is the beginning of that glorious state which you call Eternity.

I want you, dear children, not to look askance at people in either world, who tell you they know not Christ. Criticism or any form of judgment doesn't help a bit; but you can help those who are out of physical

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conditions - you can help them by prayer, by sending out those strong thoughts of faith in the living Christ, by commending them ever and ever again to God, and by asking that their eyes may be opened so that they can take in the great joy and gift of knowing the Saviour who is by their side...

So, dear children, my Christmas message is this:

The Christ-Child came in the days of old and the world knew Him not. Today, all day, and every day, Christ comes with the offer of protection, of guidance and of unlimited love. And all you have to do - and all you are expected to do - is, out of your tiny resources of feeling and love, to link yourselves with the Divine in that happy sense of companionship, and, as it were, to throw in your lot with the Friend of friends, with that understanding, all-Compassionate Jesus, who lived and walked amongst men; who not only poured out His Love upon them, but who gathered unto Himself that devotional love which we couldn't express in any terms, because day by day as the feeling came, so its strength grew in intensity - to feel as we felt, that in your daily life, in those trivial, mundane things, when spiritual conceptions seem rather far away, that the Master walks with you, as He walked with His disciples of old, entering into their interests, watchful that harm to the soul should be kept far from them, and mindful of their physical wants - that thoughtfulness over all things that concerned them; that today the same Christ is with you offering His sweet companionship and all that means; that you have not to go out and seek for that which eludes your anxious quest, but can turn to Him with confidence, with certainty that in so doing you are obeying His most loving injunction...

My children, the Christ-Child of old is the Christ of today, and the Christ of today is the same Jehovah, the Lord God Almighty, the Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and the Father of you and of me. You cannot think of one aspect of the Godhead without bringing in and including all the rest - the Christ-Child, in its very feebleness and helplessness, showing to us all that God understands when you feel childish and irresponsible; then through the growing stages, when the mind begins to act and to be independent, so also Christ understands that, for He went through it too - and so on and so on...

In all the stages of your physical, mental and spiritual progress, there is not one incident over which you can say: 'Now I am alone!' In Christ, God entered into that which we - with our smaller endurance - find

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so hard; and His understanding faileth never. His strength is poured down upon us, recharging ours when it is weak and feeble; and His Love, closing in upon us, banishes for ever that sense of isolation...

And thus it is that you and I today, dear children, can say and mean and demonstrate: 'I know Christ: Christ is God and God is my Father'.

And now, dear children, I will give place to others, but I want you, as far as possible, to give up your wills tonight - saying to yourselves: 'God's ways are best - best for me!' - and you shall find in very truth that God's ways are far better than you could think for yourselves... And now I go...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, we must close because although the power is strong enough to continue, I bear in mind the work that these records entail, and I want always, if possible, that the sense of strain should be lost in the feeling of joy and of peace that this sweet communion should bring.

You who have tried so much, who have given up of your thoughts and of your time, you, little children of the Light, should for ever be centred in happiness - in that definite sense of security, in that perfect confidence which the knowledge of the things of God always brings...

So, dear children, tonight my last words are these: That in spite of disappointment, in spite of rather a hard year, as it closes you can look back on the furrow which has been opened and see that it was good. It is not that God wishes the way to be hard, but when it is virgin soil, then it needs a strong arm and a sharp spade to cut the plots and to open up that which has not been touched before.

Cannot you see this for yourselves? It is in the preparation - during those first stages - that the strain is felt. But with practice - again, dear children, that word 'practice' comes in - not only does your arm grow stronger and the driving force greater on the tool that you use, but also, by experience, you know which is the best way to turn the soil...

In the years that are to come, you will look back and thank God, not only that you were brought through in safety, but also that the going was so hard, for only by that process, by separating the mind from the cloying

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desires of the world - only by the freeing of yourself from self and all that means - can you be found worthy or suitable for use by the Master...

Those who have love for God in their hearts, instinctively they want the best, and, as you have been told before, the best - in its spiritual sense - can only be acquired by effort, by patience, by consecration, and by service.

Yet with the larger vision comes the understanding that you are emerging out of captivity, out of the darkness of the earth, free from the chains of material desires - that you are emerging as captives set free, and, more than that - for as your freedom comes so the Great Father of all meets you, and where the chains cut into the physical body, so He lays garlands of power, so the healing Spirit of Peace descends upon you, and so that weakness is turned into strength - the strength of God which never flags and never fails, the strength which is the foundation of your confidence in the mission which lies before you - the confidence that because Christ has called and you have answered, then it is upward and onward all the time.

And thus I leave you, hoping that, inspired by the Spirit of God, you may go on your way not only in determination, but rejoicing - rejoicing because you see whither it leads and what it is producing now and in the days to come.

In the Name of the Father I bless you with peace, with unity, with faith, and with love. The little children of the Light are safe and secure for evermore...

In the Fatherhood of God, resting on the understanding of the suffering Christ, sheltered and protected under the influence of the Holy Spirit, we go on - out of the darkness into the twilight; out of the twilight into the dawn; out of the dawn into God's fresh morning - and then the revelation shall come... Goodnight.



THE NEW YEAR.

By Zodiac.

Recorded at the Zodiac Circle:
15, Nightingale Square, London, SW12.

Sunday, 28th December, 1924.

Medium: Miss Winnie Moyes.

Saviour Christ, grant that Thy healing may descend upon all and grant that we may so raise our thoughts that we can contact with it and be made whole once more...

O God, look with compassion upon Thy children, both here and in the world today. Grant that they may be able to see in the discipline of life the working out of Thy perfect Love. Grant that that dread phantom of suffering may reveal itself indeed as an angel of Light... And, Father, we ask Thee ever and ever again to give more understanding to those who are climbing the steep hillside; we ask Thee to take away the sense of isolation and of strain; that they may be able to raise their eyes from the ground and to fix them on the Golden Glory which calls them on and ever on.

Yet in Thy most loving Hands we gladly leave everything, for we know that our inadequate petitions have not only been thought out and prepared for, but that the many desires of the soul and the mind have been anticipated, so that nothing may be missing at the appointed time.

O Father and Mother God, we turn to Thee ever and ever again, certain that we are secure under Thy tender care, and that all those to whom our thoughts go out - the bereaved, the suffering and the lonely-hearted - that Thou hast gathered in these, Thy children, as well, and the time will come when each one - the veil being rent asunder - will see that the dark days but wrought in their characters that which was Divine... And so not only comforted but rejoicing, they will praise God from Whom all blessings flow, and give out of their love in the measure of which they are capable...

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Tonight we ask for power, for direction, for strength, for harmony and for peace; and in Thy Holy Name I can promise Thy little ones gathered here that these good gifts of the Spirit shall be their own...

...My children, today is one of those days which, perhaps, from the earth point of view, has gone a little awry - but it simply means this to us: That we, as messengers from the Most High, that we have been allowed to bring a little more than our share into the conditions, and so from the very beginning I would reassure you all that the evening will be carried through as usual.

Tonight, dear children, although it would seem appropriate, I rather hesitate to touch upon the subject of the New Year and all its glorious possibilities from a spiritual point of view. At the moment, memory is too keen over the past. Christmas, unfortunately, has a way, with the vast majority, of turning up old soil and of revealing the bones of past years - which should be left uncovered - to the cheerful sun.

I want to speak to you in regard to this because, as you know full well, it is the custom at Christmas time - that beautiful time of peace and of close communion with the Divine - it is a habit with the children of the earth to go back in their minds over the past. When it concerns happy days - well and good. When it concerns hard times and scarce-healed sorrows - then I say these thoughts should be ruled out unquestioningly.

You find it difficult. It is not easy with the inexperienced to bring down the blind on this and on that. But, dear children, in the house of your mind you should reverse the custom with the houses made of brick and stone. The careful housewife draws the curtains or the blinds to keep out that health-giving, that most precious gift of the sun. You, my little children, as caretakers of the Spirit, should reverse this order of things. You should pull down the blinds on the side which is sunless and throw them up, and the windows wide open, where that which is of God is held out to you... I am speaking not only of physical happiness but of that far more definite thing, the joy of the soul in touch with its God.

My children, I seem to speak, perhaps, too seriously tonight, and yet am I not trying to guard you all from the snares of the shadows? If you could see things as I see them, you would know that these memories - sanctified perhaps by sorrow - that these wounds are deliberately torn

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open by the evil which seeks to block out the vision of God's Love from your aching eyes.

Yes, it is in very truth simply an act - a destructive act of the shadows - which makes you, and countless thousands, turn over the leaves of the past and reread them until once more the tears start to flow and the wounds in heart and mind - which we have laboured hard to close - are torn apart, and we have to start again.

Children, I know it sounds strange to you that the way to God should present so much grief. There are those in your mind who seem to have been struck again and again, and yet you can testify that they have done their best. Do not think that we criticise you for these questioning thoughts. To you, so blinded by the world's view, indeed it seems over hard, and in spite of your best endeavours to be fair to Divine Love, the mind cries out: Why? Why? Why?

Well, dear children, perforce I must repeat myself: That these beloved of the Great Father are strong sturdy souls, and they are determined to carry on until the end, in spite of the protests of mind and body. I would have you know that there is not one of the chosen - that there never has been and never will be - who has not found the road both hard and steep; and because these instances are constantly being forced under your attention, it means that they have not only been chosen but that they have heard the Call and have answered with unflinching spirit. I say it is beside the point that the physical mind complains, so long as they go on.

And yet, dear children, what does this reluctance of the physical mind represent? Just this and nothing more or less: Unconsciously, they are praying against the spirit; unconsciously they are setting the physical will against that which is Divine - the Divine within - and the struggle is fierce indeed, for the spirit has no intention of retreating one step... So the battle goes on, wearing out both body and nerves, and still the spirit fights on.

My children, I know to some this sounds almost like a tragedy - and so it is; but not in the way you think. It is a tragedy that the children of the Most High should suffer so; it is a terrible thing to Perfect Love to witness, and yet there is one point to which I would draw your attention because it will show you that in the Saviour, you have that direct contacting point of sympathy and understanding.

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Once and once only, for a brief second, Our Lord felt the same. Don't you remember, when, in the garden - in the narrative as laid down in your records - that Christ, the suffering Man, faced with the complete denial of His life's work and purpose by the children He came to save; brought up against that most terrible thing of all, the betrayal by those He loved so well - that in that moment of isolation and of grief He voiced the one entreaty: 'Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from me', and in that test, that most drastic test of all - the crying out of the physical - the revelation came, and, as you know, He added: 'Nevertheless not my will, but Thine be done'.

My children, I have had a little difficulty here because this is rather against the physical mind of the instrument I use, but I want you to consider it as it stands in all its beauty of abnegation.

Can't you see, dear children, that if Christ had not been through that period, brief though it was in His case - that period of struggle between the physical and spiritual - the children of the earth could rightly declare that God could not enter into their feelings in this respect. Have I not told you before that all your experiences have been lived through and conquered by Christ Jesu, our Lord?

So, dear children, from this take comfort, and when you hear of, or see, those in your own circle of friends - when you see these shrinking from the experiences they have undertaken, say to yourself at once: 'God will understand, and, understanding, will help'.

Yet, of course, you know that something must be forthcoming from the individual concerned. These periods - when the task taken on seems too heavy and life altogether too unkind - these periods, dear children, could be shortened, if only you would concentrate more closely on the Mind of Love.

You see, in the world today, you have got to reckon with that which is not of the world in any sense there could be. I speak of the things of the Spirit which are all around you, which intermingle with the physical and even the material. These beautiful conditions which are so expressive of God are weaved into your daily life - and so it is that when the physical mind prays against the decrees of the spirit, immediately, as a natural result, disharmony is brought about in those conditions which are all around.

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My children, in regard to praying against the spirit, you have a two-fold responsibility - and yet before I touch upon that I want you to understand fully that we, and certainly much more so, Christ, do understand that, to the physical comprehension, life represents an enigma which has yet to be solved.

It is so entirely natural that when 'undeserved' trouble comes, as you regard it, the shrinking should be there - I say it is perfectly 'natural', but it is not spiritual; and because of that, at once you enhance your own unhappiness, for that within, which belongs to God, separates itself from the reluctant mind, and, closely allied to the Father, goes on its way leaving that other self rather on its own...

It explains much - it explains those periods of darkness with which all my children are familiar; it explains also that unless a tight hold is kept on the physical mind, these periods of darkness are not lessened but are increased. Yet it simply means - when they come - that, for the time, you are estranged from the greater self within; but in no sense does it mean that you are estranged from God or that the Father is separated from His child.

If I could once get that glorious truth firmly fixed in your physical mind, I should never more be placed in the position of grieving over the grief of my little ones - and it is just that healing thought which the shadows are determined shall not be there.

But we have fought many big battles and have overcome, and so it means, dear children, just this: That the day will dawn when the physical mind no longer will hamper the brave, pioneer spirit within; when you will have worked through those chains of the earth, and, in your new-found freedom, will not only rejoice but will be able to free others, by the fact that you have been through the same yourself.

And now, my children, that brings me to another point: You find it impossible to grasp, in its completeness, the necessity for such experiences in order to help others; and yet, so inconsistent is the physical mind, that again and again you exclaim at the lack of understanding some have over other people's sorrows...

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All of you who are out in the busy world are struck by this: The total inability of the vast majority to enter into the thoughts and the deep anguishes of others.

I tell you quite frankly tonight, that I could not have used either of you; and I shall be unable to use anyone who has sailed only over the smooth seas of life. You cannot teach the things of God to the uninitiated, and that's what you forget. It is like talking in a foreign language to one who understands only his mother-tongue; it would be wasted effort on my part if I had chosen as my children those who had not passed through dangerous storms and deep waters of physical experience...

You see, dear children, that once more when we bring things down to a commonsense level, the knots are found to be in imagination only; and I direct you to tell the one who is mostly in your mind (Mrs Bicknall), that she, out of her wider vision, has chosen the short, steep road to God. And tell her this: That as in nature, storms are succeeded by calm, and calm by storms, so she shall find that the little boat of her life shall be led safely out of that which threatens to wreck, into the great wide sea of God's most perfect understanding.

Children, in thinking things over, will you try to bear in mind that it hurts the tender heart of the Beloved when you pray against the spirit. Don't you understand what the great Parent feels in regard to His children when they - treading so blindly their uphill way - fall over stone and rock, and, it seems to them, produce nothing in the way of advancement but only damage to heart and mind and body - that the Father, so comprehensive, so unlimited in His Love, suffers in a way you little understand - suffers when His little ones pray against that wonderfully strong and sturdy spirit which is within. He longs to give you peace, He longs that joy should be held closely in your arms, but, in His Divine wisdom, He knows that only by unity between the physical mind and the greater you within - can perfect happiness be made your own.

Now, dear children, as you will have seen, I have had various little struggles tonight, but what does it amount to? Nothing serious at all. We went on. Now and again, of necessity, I paused to build up the power, and that is all. And so it is with your physical lives today: That shadows seek to hinder you, and, sometimes, not realising it is the shadows, you stop and listen. But never mind, presently on you go again; and each time the battle is fought, and won, so, all unconsciously to yourselves, you are building up strength in the spirit. And that strength shall stand you in

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good stead, not only in the years to come, but in the great Hereafter, when you will find it impossible to go back in thought on the discipline which you have taken on...

And now, dear children, I will go, but those who come will need help - help and encouragement too, and if you will give out of your best, you shall find that the help and the encouragement has become your own...

(After others had spoken, Zodiac returned and continued...)

...Well, my children, as that boy said, it has been a wonderful evening - wonderful in a spiritual sense - and once more we finish stronger than we began.

Oh, my children, I do want you to see in this that far-reaching Love of the Father; I want you to be able to read between the lines, and to be positive that this is going to be worked out in detail - in all your lives and in all that appertains to them. My children have been tried and tested, and if they have fainted by the way, yet what are the Messengers of God sent for but to revive, to re-charge with strength, and to lead them on!

Let the New Year bring this message to you all: That God is not mocked; that although the evil seems to strike and to strike again, yet, in reality, Christ stands between you and that which would harm. There is no danger of land, of sea or of air; of forces known or of those unknown which can pass the Saviour... Now and again, it is true, that certain souls take on for their experience such things as you call 'accidents' to limb and to mind, but with Christ in command, you shall find not only in regard to your own lives, but also in regard to all those who have been gathered in, that only in pretence was the blow there - that Christ stood between you and evil, and will do so for ever more.

There is much that will be explained in the days to come, and when that explanation comes, you will see, with me, that not only was the discipline self-chosen, but also it was love in that infinite sense, which had escaped your physical understanding - until God gave you sight and hearing...

So, my children, meeting, perhaps, with sad thoughts, we close our evening tonight on the keynote of hope and faith, and that determination to fight through the last remaining barriers until freedom is our own.

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